

# THE GATEWAY

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THROUGH THE DRINKING GLASS There could be changes in store for the Powerplant, which is losing money for the Students' Union for the fifth straight year. PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: NICK WEBER

## Powerplant's future cloudy as losses mount

Business plan may change as campus bar, budgeted to lose \$30 000, is falling behind projections so far

CHLOÉ FÉDIO  
Deputy News Editor

The future of the Powerplant as we know it is up in the air, as the Students' Union, along with the University, is looking at ways to improve the business, which has been operating at a loss since the 2001/02 academic year.

Last year, the SU-owned bar lost almost \$60 000, and this year the SU actually budgeted for the 'Plant to lose \$30 000. However, SU Vice-President (Operations and Finance) Jason Tobias explained that the year-to-date budget shows greater losses than projected.

"We're expecting that we're not even going to meet that target. What the next four months are going to bring, no one can say," he said.

Since the summer months are less busy, the Powerplant incurs a loss that is made up in the busier months of the year, Tobias explained.

"Right now, we're still seeing the summer months impacting what we've got as our current bottom line, so it's tough to say where that's going to end up by the end of April," he said. "But, even optimistically speaking, we're not going to meet our budgeted predictions, and so that's going to

be something that's going to have to come to Council," Tobias said.

The University owns the Powerplant building and charges the SU \$120 000 per year in rent, which is the extent of their involvement in the bar's operations, explained Vice-President (Facilities & Operations) Don Hickey. He added that the cost of rent is as low as it can be without having the University subsidize the business.

**"We're still committed to making that space work in some way. The thing that we're not married to is the exact details of what makes it the Powerplant, what makes it a bar."**

JASON TOBIAS, SU VICE-PRESIDENT  
(OPERATIONS AND FINANCE)

"We're not making a profit off the rent. That's not the intention, to make a profit," Hickey said.

Still, the University has entered into

discussions with the SU to discuss alternatives that will improve the profitability of the Powerplant.

"We're currently working with [the Students' Union], reviewing the existing operations and the existing request to see what can be done," Hickey said. "So, we're really just at the review phase right now."

Tobias explained that the SU hasn't changed their commitment to maintaining the space for the student body; however, they're looking at the current business model and exploring their options.

"We realize that the current model, as it stands, is not working out for us, because students are showing up and going to the events, but the profitability from alcohol and food sales just isn't there. So, we need to be able to pursue other things in order to make that space viable," Tobias said.

The SU took over the Powerplant from the Graduate Students' Association in 1997 and the 'Plant turned profits ranging from \$45 090 to \$131 616 between the 1997/98 and 2000/01 academic years.

"It's the opinion of some that [the change from profits to loss] represents more of a statistical anomaly than

an actual change—we haven't really changed the way we run the business, but the demographics have changed quite significantly over the years," Tobias said, adding that, prior to the SU taking over, the GSA encountered some similar problems running the Powerplant.

While the SU's other bar, RATT, turns a profit, it's not enough to make up for the Powerplant's losses, though Tobias said other profits help make up for the loss.

"For the past couple of years, we haven't shown strong profitability in the bars, so that ends up being subsidized by the profits from our other businesses," he said.

Furthermore, the 'Plant's contribution to student life is important, and Tobias said this is part of the reason that the University is working with the SU to find a solution to the problem.

"It's our thought that the Powerplant, as well as being a business for the Students' Union, also provides a service to students," Tobias said.

"We're still committed to making that space work in some way. The thing that we're not married to is the exact details of what makes it the Powerplant, what makes it a bar."

## University to make pitch for tuition rollback

Amrhein pledges return to 2004/05 tuition levels if province makes rebate and utility funding permanent

ROSS PRISAKOWSKI  
News Staff

University Provost and Vice-President (Academic) Dr. Carl Amrhein gave his annual presentation on tuition to Students' Council on Tuesday night, suggesting that if the province can be convinced to kick in some cash, tuition could see a rollback next year.

In recent years, his message has focused on the actual tuition increase and the driving forces behind this. However, this time, Amrhein offered the prospect that the University might actually roll back tuition levels—if the provincial government makes a few minor changes to the way the University is funded.

The University is planning to put forward calls for the provincial government to increase the base operating funding of the University by an amount equal to what has been raised from the last two years of tuition increases and the extra funding the University will be receiving to cope with increased utility and natural gas bills. If the province agrees, the University has offered to roll back tuition levels to the amount at the start of the 2004/2005 academic year. While that wouldn't result in students paying less next year, because of a provincial tuition rebate in place for this year, it would help protect against a large sudden increase if those rebates end in the future.

"I think [the province] will be receptive to the idea, but I don't want to forecast what they'll say," said Amrhein. "They don't want to see our quality [of education] eroded; they would like us to take more students. So if you add all of that up and recognize that they are generating massive revenues from the royalties on natural gas, I think it's a very strong argument, and I hope they agree [to the proposal]."

"But at this point, it's just hope," he added.

PLEASE SEE TUITION + PAGE 3

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### You're so money, Baby

Getting dates these days is remarkably easy. Today's feature examines, in excessive detail, how.

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### Crazy about Clooney

Jessica Warren talks to George Clooney about his upcoming Middle East political thriller, *Syriana*.

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### Merry Holidays!

As fall-term classes approach their end, so does the Gateway's publishing schedule. Accordingly, this is our last "real" issue until no January. But tune in next week for our annual joke issue.

## THE GATEWAY

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## colophon

The Gateway is created using Macintosh computers, Unisys PowerLook 1000 flatbed scanner, and a Nikon Super Cool Scan optical film scanner. Adobe InDesign is used for layout. Adobe Illustrator is used for vector images, while Adobe Photoshop is used for raster images. Adobe Acrobat is used to create PDF files which are burned directly to plates to be mounted on the printing press. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles, and weights of Helvetica, Garamond, and Avenir. The Masthead is the Gateway's sister paper. The Gateway's games of choice are Mario Kart DS and World of Warcraft.

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## Grad student examines kink in the mainstream

MIKE KENDRICK  
News Staff

Shoppers this holiday season may notice that things have taken on a little naughty streak, as mannequins clad in leather and lace have replaced the usual winter apparel in many shop windows in places such as City Centre.

But graduate student Carolyn Dowdell, currently studying in Human Ecology, says that the underground fetish culture has been lurking in the mainstream for longer than we think. The U of A student is presenting an exhibit, *What You Never Knew Was Lurking in Your Closet—Fetish Fashion and You*, on campus until 9 December, complete with cuffs and corsets to illustrate her point.

Venturing into the basement of the Human Ecology building, one is greeted with form-fitting vinyl dresses and knee-high leather boots.

"Some people have things in their closets and don't even realize where the influences come from," says Dowdell.

"Girls will have tops with the lacing; ... that comes from corsetry. Stilettos are really coming back too."

According to Dowdell, the media has played a large role in the promotion of the sexy subculture in our

everyday lives. Although sexualization in advertising is a popular tool, Dowdell feels that the mainstream perception of "pornography versus art" is starting to shift. Referring to the now-infamous Sketchers ads starring Christina Aguilera, she comments that sex in advertising does have an impact.

"You look at the naughty nurse or cop ads, and you don't see those in real life. It's definitely very sexualized, but [the perception] is midway in between."

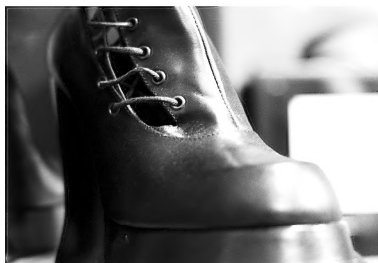
Unfortunately, Dowdell says, there are still some misconceptions on what fetish culture is, and the types of people involved in it.

"I think one of the biggest misconceptions is that the people who are into this are just freaks," she says. "There's people like lawyers and doctors, who, if you just saw them on the street, you'd have no idea that they're into leather and bondage."

Hailing from Toronto, Dowdell says that she's noticed a somewhat different reception to the culture in Alberta's capital.

"It's a lot more reserved, compared to a big city like Toronto."

Although the acceptance is starting to develop, she says that some passers-



DAS BOOT A U of A exhibit examines the impact of fetish fashion on society. MIKE OTTO

by are still shocked by the somewhat taboo subject material of her work. "I even had someone walk by while I was setting up and say, 'Oh my fucking god!'"

Perhaps the most intimidating part of getting into the subculture is knowing where to start, and this is different for each person, she explains.

"People don't usually have a specific time and date that they [get into the

fetish culture]," she says. "It's often kind of gradual."

Dowdell, who's been a part of the deeper scene for a year and a half now, offers words of encouragement to prospective dominatrices and industrial protégés.

"Just go for it. It's not as scary as a lot of people think, but then, I guess I've got a little bit of an exhibitionist streak too."

## Study shows that conservation makes economic sense

ANNA PURNI NARAYANAN  
News Writer

Despite the continued deforestation of rainforests for agricultural and resource use, a recent University of Alberta study by Dr Robin Naidoo and Dr Wiktor Adamowicz suggests that there is a net economic benefit to conserving a rainforest.

"What our research has demonstrated is that the sums of money from tourism are, in theory, enough to cover the costs of conservation of [tropical forests] reserves," said Naidoo, who received his PhD from the University of Alberta and is currently working for the World Wildlife Foundation. His colleague, Adamowicz, is a professor in the Department of Rural Economy at the U of A.

The researchers quantified the costs and benefits of conserving the Mabira Forest Reserve in Uganda, a tropical lowland forest that contains a large number of beautiful and diverse avian species.

"The Mabira Reserve is in some ways representative of many other reserves across the developing world: it's a small fragment of natural habitat

[that] persists and is visited by international tourists, but its survival is uncertain due to pressures from an impoverished surrounding population whose livelihoods may benefit, at least in the short term, from unsustainable use of the land and resources that the forest currently occupies," Naidoo explained.

Naidoo explained that the forest reserve is surrounded by land actively used in agriculture, and there's serious concern from those interested in protecting the rainforest that this activity will encroach upon the forest reserve. As well, the forest is an appealing source of timber and fuel wood.

The study surveyed passengers departing the Uganda airport, mostly tourists and foreign residents of Uganda, and assessed their inclination to visit various forest reserves of differing qualities. It was found that the respondents were more likely to visit a forest reserve that contained high avian biodiversity.

"This is some of the first evidence we have that people actually prefer biodiversity per se, rather than just pretty landscapes or charismatic species, and more importantly, they showed they

were willing to pay for the chance to see higher numbers of [bird] species," commented Naidoo.

Further, the study indicates that the Mabira Forest Reserve is severely undervalued. At present, the entrance fee to the Reserve is less than \$5 US. In order to maximize tourism revenue, the study suggests that the fee should be increased to \$47 US. Although this would probably result in fewer tourists to the area, it would increase total tourism revenues to a level where 80-90 per cent of avian species could be preserved. In addition, a strategy of collecting more money from fewer people may be advantageous because having fewer visitors may reduce the negative ecological impact on the area.

In 1996, an eco-tourism centre was founded at the Mabira Forest Reserve and ever since it has enticed tourists to visit the area. Local communities receive a portion of the revenue from the tourism centre, in an attempt to reinforce the value of conserving the rainforest.

In theory, the study by Naidoo and Adamowicz has demonstrated that conservation makes economic sense.

However, only with the full support of the local communities will the conservation of the Mabira Forest Reserve be successful.

"The key here... is actually developing a mechanism or system whereby these revenues flow back to the people who need them the most, and in whose hands the future of the reserves lies," said Naidoo.

"This will give them an economic incentive to protect, rather than cut down, tropical forests, because they can earn more by preserving the forest than from chopping it down and farming it."

## Correction

In the Thursday, 24 November issue of the Gateway, a photo caption on page 3 accompanying the article "U of A gets low grades for helping students find jobs," by Derek Larson, incorrectly identified the person in the photograph as CAPS Promotions Coordinator Laura Manuel. In fact, the photo was of CAPS staff member Selina Chiang. The Gateway apologizes for the error.

we won't tell santa  
if you're naughty

# Multi-talented Chowdhury on the Rhodes to Oxford

IRIS TSE  
Design & Production Editor

At this rate, one can't help but ask the one question running through everybody's head: Is Jeeshan Chowdhury bad at anything?

Chowdhury worked as a summer research associate for NASA, the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration, in 2002. He has recently taken part in the European Space Agency Student Parabolic Flight Campaign, where he experienced zero gravity. In addition, the fourth-year MD/PhD student is also a member of the U of A rowing team and a director for the Canadian Millennium Scholarship Foundation. But there is one thing that confounds him.

"I hate skiing," says Chowdhury, who, ironically, is a member of the Canadian Ski Patrol. "Skiing is something that I just can't do. I don't know why. You put me down on a toboggan or a snowboard, I can handle myself pretty well, but you put me on skis, I just can't do it."

Of course, where Chowdhury is going, his skiing ineptitude won't matter too much. Starting in October 2006, Chowdhury will join the rarified ranks of Rhodes Scholarship recipients and attend the fabled Oxford University. He will follow the footsteps of world leaders and innovators such as former American President Bill Clinton and the famed astronomer Edwin P. Hubble.

"I am absolutely just totally blown away. To be completely honest, this is something I have always hoped for. But to actually hear that I'm going to Oxford is just unbelievable. It's been a few days now, and it has yet to hit me," says Chowdhury of his whirlwind week. "I just can't describe it."

"The president of the University called me in my lab, I had calls from the Minister of Health [Ujjal Dosanjh] and [Deputy Prime Minister] Anne McLellan—it's just amazing. I know this is an amazing opportunity and prestigious honour. But I couldn't imagine that it would be like this. It's beyond my wildest dreams."

Chowdhury, who is currently in Ottawa attending the Canadian Medical Association Leaders Forum, is looking forward to the meeting of minds at Oxford. The Rhodes Scholarship was established by former British imperialist Cecil



FILE PHOTO: NICK WHEE

**ALOT TO LOOK FORWARD TO** New Rhodes Scholar Jeeshan Chowdhury.

Rhodes to help people from the Commonwealth and America study at Oxford University. Chowdhury will be the 23rd U of A student to attend the British university.

**"I am absolutely just totally blown away. To be completely honest, this is something I have always hoped for. But to actually hear that I'm going to Oxford is just unbelievable."**

JEESSHAN CHOWDHURY

Chowdhury is currently working under U of A Engineer Dr Chris Backhouse and oncologist Dr Linda Pilarsk, helping them develop a lab-on-a-chip. The biochip will combine nanotechnology and clinical medicine to deliver quick bedside diagnostics of injuries and infections. It will also give doctors the resources to quickly and cheaply genetically screen patients and offer them individualized therapy.

"One of the problems that we have in Third World countries is not being able to bring lab diagnostics to patients. So hopefully we can one day use this lab-on-a-chip technology for bio-testing, global health and

population statistics in the developing world," says Chowdhury of the device, which bears a shade of resemblance to the Tricorders seen on Star Trek.

It's unlikely that he will continue his current work at Oxford, as the research is quite unique to the U of A, and Chowdhury has yet to decide which subject to pursue when he's at Oxford. He anticipates that there will be plenty of opportunities to explore when he's there.

"What I'm really interested in is global health. I'm looking forward to getting more training in that field," he says. "I hope that I can take that training and experience, and come back and really try to make an impact on the world."

"Being in medicine, being at the U of A, I already have the opportunity to do that with my research and do everything here. But I believe [the Rhodes Scholarship] will bring a whole new level to my ability and opportunities to do that," adds Chowdhury.

With months left before he has to start packing, and with the holiday season fast approaching, Chowdhury is glad that he may finally find a brief window to slow down and cap off his eventful year. But it appears that there is still one more thing on his to-do list.

"I've actually been wanting to see the new Harry Potter movie, and I haven't been able to because I've been so busy lately. I hear it's good. Maybe I'll go see that."

## BoG looking at 6.4 per cent tuition hike

TUITION • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Students' Union President Graham Lettner was receptive to the proposal as a means of lightening the tuition load on students and alleviating some of the uncertainty surrounding the current tuition rebate that has recently been extended for a second year.

"I think students are still worried about the prospect of eventually facing a double or even triple bump in tuition, so I wouldn't say that they are less concerned about the possibilities," said Lettner. "Our role in this is to offer a solution that the Premier is willing to adopt, and what we feel that should be is for the last two years of tuition increases to be rolled into the base operating funding for the University, thus lowering tuition on paper for students."

However, Dr Armbrin informed

**"I think students are still worried about the prospect of eventually facing a double or even triple bump in tuition..."**

GRAHAM LETTNER, SU PRESIDENT

Council that unless the province agrees to the proposal, the budget that the University's Board of Governors will vote for on 20 January will be calling for a 6.4 per cent tuition increase, the maximum allowed, moving the cost of a full course load from \$4798 to \$5105.

He also told councilors that even

with this increase, the quality of education would not match what it was in the 1980s when the government paid \$10.40 to universities for every dollar of tuition collected; that number is currently \$3.40. Instead, this increase will help the cover the increased utilities costs that are expected to push the University's deficit to \$7.8 million from the \$3.7 million that had been previously budgeted for, reasoning that Lettner was sympathetic to.

"I think the truth is stark that the price of natural gas has gone up, the government makes lots of money from it, and the University has to spend lots more money, so there's a direct correlation there," said Lettner. "I can't see how the budgeting process from twelve months back should have been expected to forecast this kind of jump in natural gas prices."

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- Thursday**  
Well Highballs \$3.00  
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- Friday**  
Well Highballs \$3.00 | Big Rock Pints \$3.75



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**WIN \$1516 towards tuition** courtesy of RATT, Powerplant and Okanagan 1516. That's 3.79 times more than the Provincial Government is handing out. Entry forms at RATT and Powerplant every Monday. Draw date December 16, 2005.

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# Meteorite museum puts birth of solar system on display

New permanent display in U of A's Mineralogy and Petrology museum has 14 specimens, including some older than the Earth

SCOTT LUDWIG  
News Staff

While some museums can boast collections that document thousands, even millions, of years of history, a new exhibit at the U of A's Mineralogy and Petrology Museum features specimens billions of years old, some of which even pre-date the formation of the Earth.

The display showcases 14 meteorites from the University's collection, some of which formed during the birth of our solar system. While some of the meteorites have been collected from as far as Australia, most of those on display were discovered by Albertans who brought the rocks in to the University.

**"It has an aesthetic appeal to it, but if you spend time looking at it, you can really learn quite a bit about meteorites and what they tell us. It's rare that you get to see 14 meteorites displayed like this anywhere."**

DR CHRIS HERD,  
METEORITE EXHIBIT CURATOR

"You know, somebody found a strange rock on their property and brought it in for identification," said Chris Herd, professor of Earth and

Atmospheric Sciences and the curator of the meteorite exhibit. "In other cases, there was a major fireball that people saw in the sky, associated noises, then they were able to find a number of these meteorites that fell to the ground shortly after that."

The University has been collecting meteorites for research purposes for 90 years, beginning with the 1915 purchase of a chunk of the Brenham meteorite. The 240-gram sample of the meteorite, which was discovered in Kansas in 1886, cost the University \$20. Since that time, the department's collection has grown significantly; it now has over 1100 individual pieces of 130 different meteorites. For much of the collection's history, the rocks were not open for public viewing, but when Herd was put in charge of the collection, he felt that a showcase was in order.

"I thought that we've got the second largest meteorite collection in all of Canada, and we've got some great meteorites that we could put on display. So, I strongly suggested that we do this," Herd explained.

The majority of the 14 meteorites on display were selected not only with a focus on those found within Alberta, but to represent the diversity of the University's collection. For example, the Edmonton and Mayerthorpe meteorites, chunks of rich iron, are most likely sections of an asteroid's core. The uneven surface of the Australian Millbillillie meteorite, on the other hand, suggest that it was formed by the lava flow on an asteroid's surface. Many of the rocks have been sliced, allowing visitors a look in to the interior of the meteorites.



THEY CAME FROM OUTER SPACE Dr Chris Herd, curator of the U of A's new meteorite exhibit, with one of his rocks. MIKE OTTO

Behind the display case, a vivid artist's interpretation gives a glimpse in to the processes that researchers believe led to the formation of these asteroids, as well as the other bodies in the solar system. Additional panels and displays describe the type of research done on the various meteorites, and how they have furthered science's understanding of how celestial bodies form.

"Some of them look like planets in the sense that they've formed a core, a

mantle and a crust," Herd said. "Other asteroids didn't get to that point, and they actually preserve some of that dust from which the solar system formed. By studying those more primitive meteorites, we get this picture here of the solar system forming."

After over a year of planning and construction, Herd is pleased with how the exhibit turned out.

"It has an aesthetic appeal to it, but if you spend time looking at it, you

can really learn quite a bit about meteorites and what they tell us," he said. "It's rare that you get to see 14 meteorites displayed like this anywhere. I'm really thrilled about this. It's great."

The meteorite exhibit is on permanent display at the Museum of Mineralogy and Petrology, located in the basement of the Earth Sciences Building in room B-08. The museum is open to the public every weekday from 8am-4pm.

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CLASSIC



# Removing eggs from nests can help save endangered cranes

ALEXANDER DEACON  
News Staff

Analyzing data that have been collected since 1967, Dr Mark Boyce and his colleagues have shown that removing one egg from whooping crane nests can dramatically increase the survival rates of the remaining chick, as well as provide more opportunities to replenish flock numbers.

Boyce, a professor of Biological Sciences at the University of Alberta, along with co-authors Dr Subhash Lele from the department of Mathematical and Statistical Sciences on campus, and Dr Brian Johns of the Canadian Wildlife Service, published the results of their study in the scientific journal *Biological Conservation*.

The data analyzed was collected as a result of the work of Ernie Kuyt, an

Edmonton-based biologist who reasoned that, as whooping cranes typically rear only one chick, taking the other egg could help replenish other flocks. The resulting egg-collection programme in Wood Buffalo National Park (WBNP) has led to the substantial growth of several flocks, and has also yielded some surprising results, said Boyce.

"The birds in WBNP have had higher recruitment success when eggs have been removed than when they haven't been, which is just totally bizarre. I didn't believe the results; I redid the analysis several times to prove to myself that we had it right," he said.

After further investigation, Boyce had several explanations for the oddity of the findings. He speculated that nests with only one chick would be less visible to predators than nests

with two chicks, and also that the parents can provide one chick with more focused attention in terms of nutrition and defence. The main reason, though, is due to the vicious nature of sibling-rivalry in whooping cranes.

**"I didn't believe the results; I redid the analysis several times to prove to myself that we had it right."**

DR MARK BOYCE,  
PROFESSOR OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

"If both chicks hatch, they just go at each other. They'll peck each other's eyes out—they're vicious," he said. "By

scrapping, there's an increased chance that both of them will get injured."

Boyce noted that in nests with only one egg, chicks are 15 per cent more likely to complete their migration route from WBNP to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge in Texas.

Despite the programme's initial successes, Boyce foresees more difficulty in store for whooping cranes. He pointed out that Parks Canada would prefer that no more egg-collecting occurs in the future. Although this is not an immediate concern, as there is no need at present to collect more eggs, Boyce believes that it's necessary for Parks Canada to remain flexible to the idea in the future.

"It's easy to imagine, for example, that we might have avian flu get into one of the flocks and wipe them out, in which case it would be important

to be able to restock that area. So there may be, in the future, sometime that we do need to reinstate the egg-collection programme."

Boyce explained that Parks Canada wants to keep disturbances associated with egg-collection—including helicopter flights over nesting areas—to a minimum. Although he doesn't fundamentally disagree with Parks Canada's policies, he believes that policies should be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

"Parks management philosophy is to allow natural ecological processes to run their course with minimal human intervention," he explained. "But prevention of extinction for endangered species sometimes requires more direct management intervention, whooping cranes being a case in point."

## Grant helps top dinosaur expert develop advanced palaeontology lab at U of A

DEREK LARSON  
News Writer

Even before *Jurassic Park*, dinosaurs had been the breadwinners of the palaeontological community, and one of this year's Tier One Canadian Research Chairs is no exception.

The federal government, through the Canadian Research Chair program, has given Dr Phillip J. Currie of the University of Alberta \$1.4 million over seven years to study the prehistoric beasts. Currie, professor in the Biological Sciences Department as of October of this year and formerly of the Royal Tyrrell Museum in Drumheller, couldn't be happier.

"I'm very pleased that I was able to capture one of these [Canadian Research Chairs], and the budgets that go with it," said Currie. "It's a pretty good indication that the federal government ... is pretty serious about trying to keep scientists in Canada and to improve what's being done in the country."

Canada's foremost dinosaur expert, Currie is also one of the most well-known palaeontologists in the world, specializing in theropod (meat-eating) dinosaurs.

His popularity is evident in his schedule. Currently in the midst of a European lecture tour, he has already visited Sweden, Switzerland and Italy, and he plans to visit Spain as well.

But no matter how far afield he travels, this world-renowned palaeontologist has decided to come to the U of A to set up shop permanently.

With his research money, Currie plans to build one of the most advanced palaeontology laboratories in the world, including equipment for CAT scanning and 3D imaging. With the lab, he'll be better able to study features of bones and how they relate to other bones, allowing for a better understanding of how dinosaurs lived, moved, and grew over time.

"I'll have the opportunity to set up a lab to teach the next generation of palaeontologists working on dinosaurs the latest techniques," said Currie.

And for all the projects that he's working on, he'll need a lab and a small team of students. Recently working on everything from Mongolian dinosaurs to small theropod dinosaurs to feathered dinosaurs, Currie has had to focus his energy on particular fields.

"[I've been] working a lot this year on tyrannosaurs, because with the

100th anniversary of *Tyrannosaurus rex* and *Albertosaurus* [this year], I had a whole series of papers I had to finish off on that," Currie said, adding that he is currently writing a description of what could be the largest T-rex ever found.

"The next step we're going to go on this is starting to look at the mechanics of the skull and how the skull moves," he said. "If you don't have some give in the skull, then I think you have a much better chance of breaking teeth and things like that, so there is presumably a way that we can model this and test it and see what kind of stresses are put on the jaws and the teeth themselves and see if, in fact, all that [movement] has something to do with solving the problem of breaking teeth."

But Dr Currie has not spent the entirety of his two months here at the U of A designing his new lab, carefully observing fossils, and writing an endless stream of scientific papers.

"We took out a bone [from the shores of the North Saskatchewan river] the other day, the day we left for Sweden, actually," said Currie. "But it looks like there are more bones there, so we'll have to see next year what it leads to."



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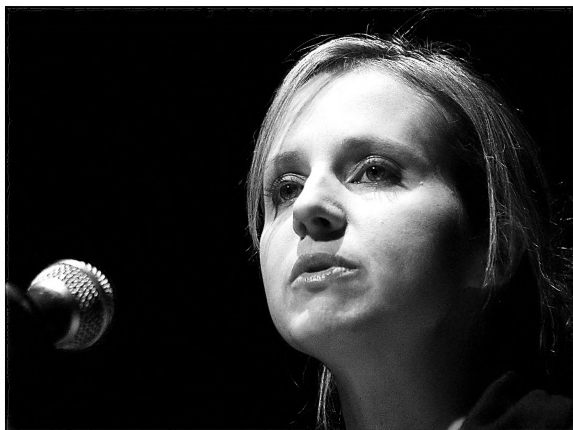


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**WON'T SOMEBODY THINK OF THE CHILDREN?** Dr Samantha Nutt of War Child, the latest speaker in the Students' Union's Revolutionary Speakers Series, enlightened last night's Myer Horowitz audience on issues surrounding global conflict, the international arms trade, and how people can ensure they aren't supporting the war industry.

## COUNCIL FORUM

Compiled by Ross Prusakowski

Students' Council meets every second Tuesday in the Council Chambers in University Hall at 6pm. Council meetings are open to all students. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 6 December.

### FALL TERM STRETCH RUN

While their counterparts in federal politics were hitting the hustings of a fresh election campaign, student politicians settled in for their second-last meeting of the fall semester. They were met with both a full agenda and council chambers as the petition question backlog from the past month had slowed Students' Council to a crawl.

However, before Council could remedy this legislative logjam, they were given their annual presentation from U of A Provost and Vice-President (Academic) Dr Carl Amrhein on tuition, which he noted would be increasing 6.4 per cent for the 2006/07 academic year (for more information, see story on page 1).

### BACK ON PAPER AGAIN

After devoting an hour to Dr Amrhein's presentation, councillors were still unable to shake their petition plague, as a ruling from the Discipline, Interpretation and Enforcement (DIE) Board required them to reconsider twelve previously proposed petitions questions that they initially rejected as dilatory. Based on the DIE board ruling, while Council can label proposed questions as being in bad faith, and then refuse to endorse those questions, they were still required to consider the questions individually, rather than rejecting all questions submitted by a particular student, as they had earlier.

During its reconsideration of the twelve proposed questions, Council threw away four questions that it considered to be proposed in bad faith, while three of the questions were declared illegal because they contravened federal or provincial statutes or SU bylaws. While having to consider these proposed questions provoked some lighter moments—including allusions to the DIE Board ruling, which contained the phrase "imposition of the organization"—Council spent a fair amount of time looking at the proposals.

The process to defeat a question is

elaborate and time consuming, and Council undertook a debate on each of the proposed questions. While for the most part these debates were relatively quick, Law Councillor Kyle Kavanami continually warned his fellow members to draw the distinction between questions that were "stupid" and ones that had been put forward in bad faith.

The five questions that were approved to go to petition ask if students support eliminating the SU's plebiscite and referendum process altogether, eliminating all dedicated fees the SU currently collects (including the Gateway Student Journalism Fund), requiring that the SU only collect or approve fees where student control of the fee recipient corresponds to the financial contribution, electing the two student representatives on the University's Board of Governors to overlapping two-year terms, and barring (the SU from referring to itself by anything other than its full legal name (The Students' Union, the University of Alberta).

### THREE STRIKES, IT'S OUT?

After having to reconsider the twelve proposed questions, Council was asked for a third time to consider a petition

question calling for SU bars to charge \$2 for a pint of beer. Andrew Langstone, the student proposing the motion as a petition to attract people into the campus bars, appeared before Council to defend the proposal and his intent in proposing the question.

Once again, this proposed question was challenged by Vice-President (Operations and Finance) Jason Tobias, who said this motion was illegal under Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission guidelines regarding the promotion of public intoxication. This time Tobias came equipped with a letter from the Chair of the University's Alcohol Policy Review Committee that said pricing like this would promote public intoxication.

Rather than being forced to make a third decision on a point of order on whether the question was legal, Speaker Greg Harlow put the question back to Council and asked that councillors decide once and for all if this proposal was legal. This provoked a flurry of debate and opinions on if the letter from the University was enough reason for Council to reject the question. In the end, Council decided the letter wasn't enough, by a vote of 12-11.

Medicine and Dentistry councillor Suneil Khanna then raised the point that

this would be in breach of the SU's fiduciary obligation. Here, Harlow paused to listen and take councillors' input and thoughts on whether this was the case before he ruled that the point of order was well taken and removed the question. This ruling was challenged by Science councillor Sylvia Shamama, who thought that tossing the question was unfair to the member who had proposed three similar questions and had not received a clear answer.

Council rejected this challenge, but not before the Speaker and more than a few councillors expressed disquiet that current SU bylaws don't allow Council to set aside proposed questions and get legal opinions on them.

Council was then forced to reconvene elsewhere—because of a 10pm limit on its use of Council Chambers—to approve six additional questions that remained on the order paper, and needed to be approved by the end of the meeting, according to bylaw. However, as they lost members in the transition between meeting places and fell below quorum, Council moved to defer adjournment until tonight at 6pm so they could reconvene to vote the remaining petition questions and still remain within the requirements of bylaw.

## STREETERS

On Monday, the Liberal government was defeated by a non-confidence motion in the House of Commons, setting the stage for a 23 January election.

Do you support the non-confidence motion, and do you plan to vote?



Ryan Stempfle  
Pharmacy I



Samantha Wilson  
Science II



Kim Wong  
Science II



David Cinats  
Science III

I think it's important that somebody new comes in and that things start to go in a different direction after what's happened... Yeah, I think I'm gonna vote. I think it's a great opportunity for me to enforce my opinion, even though it's in mass numbers, my voice can somewhat be heard. Otherwise, I haven't given it a great deal of thought as of yet.

Honestly, I don't really care too much. I probably won't vote. Maybe years down the road I would, but right now I wouldn't. I don't know enough about it; I'm uninformed.

Actually, I'm not from Alberta, so I won't be voting, because I can't. I haven't been following it, to be honest with you.


I do support the non-confidence vote. I think that, based on the recent findings from the Gomery inquiry, I think the Liberals need to be held accountable for their actions. Even if there's another minority government that's elected, I think it would be good to shake things up at bit.

Compiled and photographed by Chloé Fedio and Aleena Reitsma

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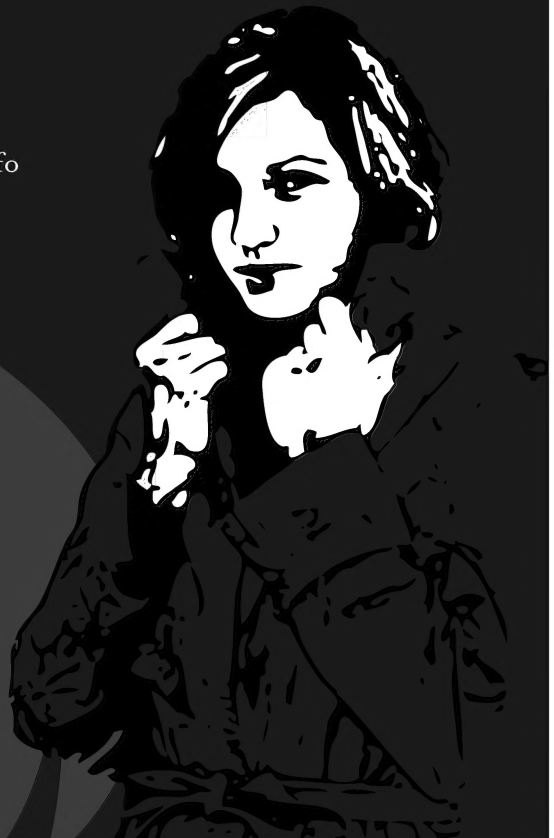
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# TWU votes to allow on-campus dancing

KRISTIAN OSTENSEN  
Mars' Hill

LANGLEY, BC (CUP)—In a controversial ruling, the Trinity Western University Board of Governors has decided that students will soon be allowed to participate in social dances on campus.

As of January, the Responsibilities of Membership (ROM) for students will no longer state that "social dancing is not permitted on campus, nor may dances be sponsored by University or student groups."

**"I'm really reserved. Guidelines for dancing would help, but it could lead to a slippery slope."**

JONATHAN KRISTIANSSON,  
TRINITY WESTERN UNIVERSITY  
FRESHMAN

In replacement of that clause, there will be a policy that governs on-campus social dancing. Said Dr. Ken Kush, Trinity Western's Vice-President (Student Life), who explained that although this new policy has been approved by the board, it still "needs to be edited." The Board of Governors will ratify the policy at its February meeting.

These changes came as a result of a proposal made by the University's Student Association president, Jamie Woller, and his senior representative, Jeremy Valleraud, last year. Woller explained that the idea for a proposal came out of an event that the student association held last year called "Club Froshmore," that mimicked a club atmosphere, complete with music and dancing.

"Some said it's good that we have

events where we can express ourselves. Others said it's breaking community standards," said Woller of the reactions to such an event on campus, adding that the intention was to create a controlled environment that everyone could enjoy.

He and Valleraud drafted a proposal to have swing dancing at the spring formal, but it was rejected by Kush on the grounds of the ROM. They then began to work with him to create a proposal to change the ROM.

The board first changed the dancing policy in the early 1990s, when the ROM was amended to allow for social dancing off campus.

In drafting the new proposal, Woller and Valleraud looked at the policies of schools in the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities (CCCCU) that allow dancing.

"The rationale [behind the proposal] was that a lot of other universities were able to find complete enjoyment out of dancing, and it didn't have to be a strict no-dancing policy," said Woller.

The dean of students, Sheldon Loepky, also helped to develop the proposal, and Kush took it to the board last April, arguing in support of the student association.

Woller said he found the administration "incredibly easy to work with," however, both Kush and Woller acknowledged that this change will not be appreciated by this change.

"There may be elements within our community that will regret this change," said Kush.

"I'm really reserved," said freshman Jonathan Kristiansson. "Guidelines for dancing would help, but it could lead to a slippery slope."

But Kate Corkum, a sophomore, supports the idea of change.

"A lot of students dance," she said. "If they were able to do it on campus, it would give them more freedom."

"It's all part of an evolution," added Kush. "Things change."

## NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Compiled by Jake Troughton

### MCGILL MAY FACE RIGHTS COMPLAINT AS MUSLIMS PRAY IN SNOW

MONTREAL (CUP)—After seven months without a place to pray on campus, the Muslim Students' Association (MSA) at McGill will take its case against the University to the Québec Commission des droits de la personne et des droits de la jeunesse.

The Commission is charged with upholding the principles of the Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms in Québec. The Canadian Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR-CAN), a national advocacy group, will launch the complaint on behalf of the MSA.

The MSA believes that a section of the Québec Charter of Human Rights, which requires institutions to accommodate people with religious needs, mandates that McGill provide a prayer space.

"It's come to a point where it's clear that the University is not able to work the issue out," said Halima Mautub, human rights coordinator for CAIR-CAN, pointing out that the organization's request to be part of negotiations between McGill and the MSA was refused by the University.

However, McGill's Vice-Principal (Communications) Jennifer Robinson said the MSA doesn't speak for all Muslim students on campus, pointing to the Israeli Muslim students, who have an off-campus prayer space.

"[The MSA] wants special treatment; they want special privileges," she said.

Muslim students have been praying outdoors since they were evicted from their space in the basement of Peterson Hall last May, though some have moved inside since the snowfall.

Josh Ginsberg, the McGill Daily

### MCGILL INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS COULD SUE OVER TUITION FEES

MONTREAL (CUP)—International students may be able to sue McGill University for charging them more in tuition than the provincial government allows, according to a legal opinion obtained by *Le Défi Français*, the University's French-language student

newspaper. The written opinion states that students could claim both the excess tuition charges and interest on those charges.

Lawyer Michael Bergman also informed *Le Défi Français* that students would have a case for suing the government for failing to enforce the tuition fee regulations it has set.

International undergraduate tuition in several faculties at McGill is currently deregulated and above the government cap. For instance, although the government-imposed cap on Arts students' tuition fees is \$335.61 per credit, international undergraduates in McGill's Faculty of Arts pay \$599. This figure does not include ancillary fees.

Aaron Donny-Clark, Vice-President (External) of the McGill Students' Society, said that although Bergman's response to the question is "very interesting," he has yet to confirm that it is entirely accurate, because Bergman did not examine the documents that describe the transfer of grants and subsidies from the Québec government to McGill.

But Elaina Zendejig, a psychology student from the United States, said she would be unlikely to get on board with a group lawsuit, explaining that even though her tuition is deregulated, it's still much less than she would be paying at a comparable American university.

Erin Moore, CUP Québec Bureau Chief

### ACADIA AGREES TO MATCH ALBERTA CENTENAL SCHOLARSHIP

OTTAWA (CUP)—Acadia University in Nova Scotia is taking Alberta's Centennial Scholarship one step further by subsidizing recipients' residence costs.

Starting in September 2006, 25 students in each province and territory will receive \$2005 from the Alberta government. Acadia students who receive the scholarship will receive an equal amount towards residence accommodations.

Alberta Premier Ralph Klein unveiled the scholarship on 21 November in Ottawa as a goodwill gesture towards Canadians, and to commemorate the province's centennial anniversary.

Acadia does not know how many students will be able to use the Centennial Scholarship will apply for their university and be eligible for the residence credit. According to Scott Roberts, communications director at Acadia, the University has not set a limit on how many students will be able

to apply.

Acadia currently has a high residence vacancy rate, with accommodations costing between \$700 and \$750.

Ryan Conrad, President of the Acadia Students' Union, said at Acadia's Board of Governors meeting earlier this year that the excess residence costs should be provided free of charge or discounted for students who are unable to pay for the cost of living.

"The rooms are [available], so you might as well fill them," said Conrad.

William Wolfe-Wylie and Nadaya Bell, CUP Atlantic and Ottawa Bureau Chiefs

### UBC EXCEEDS KYOTO'S EXPECTATIONS

VANCOUVER (CUP)—In 2006, UBC will become the first university in Canada to meet the Kyoto Protocol's goals. As per the agreement, UBC will reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by six per cent from 1990 levels.

UBC's drive for campus sustainability began over ten years ago when UBC President David Strangway signed the Tallories and Halifax Declarations.

As a result of these declarations, UBC began Ecotrek, Acadia's largest university energy and water retrofit program, in order to save energy, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote a more efficient campus.

The project is slated for completion next year, and involves retrofitting all buildings, old and new. Air, heating and lighting systems have been upgraded in order to decrease energy use and increase cost savings. To date, UBC has decreased water use by 30 per cent and energy use by 20 per cent from 1998 levels.

Aside from physical upgrades, the sustainability office has also sought to change the behaviours of students, faculty and staff on campus. The campaign to remind people to shut off lights and computers in buildings after use has been very successful, saving over \$750,000 annually. Universal bus pass program has also reduced the use of single-occupancy vehicles at UBC dramatically, resulting in reduced CO2 emissions.

The large price tag on the Ecotrek project—\$35 million for all buildings on campus—will be paid back by energy savings. UBC is currently saving \$2.5 million annually from the upgrades, and has also received \$6 million in funding from BC Hydro for the project.

Claudia Li, the Ubysey

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## Buying for the Bratz

IT'S THAT TIME OF THE YEAR AGAIN, when parents have to worry about their children's Christmas wish list. While the Xbox 360 seems to be the new Furby, provoking parents to fistfight at the local Toys R Us for the coveted gaming console, there's another toy on the list that will create headlines just as easily. Prominent on most girls' wish lists is the abominable attack on the feminist movement known as the Bratz dolls.

It's not surprising that the Bratz dolls, with their botoxed lips and belly-shirts, are quite popular with the Nickelodeon demographic. They seem to be the perfect product for the post-literate tween generation. Their mantra, "Passion for fashion," is unapologetically frivolous and trivial, yet so perfect for those weaned on Britney Spears. And to emphasize how "hip" they are, they also use annoying spelling variations for their names such as "Meygan," "Cloe" and "Roxxi."

Even worse is that the company that created the original Bratz dolls has edged one step further in the direction of pedophilia by coming out with Bratz Babyz. The tacky abuse of the letter z is the least of its crimes. Dressed in scandalously tight t-shirts, and accessorized with bottle-shaped bling, I couldn't help but wonder if these dolls are meant to promote a future in prostitution, or at the very least, night-vision hole videos.

Of course, all this about Bratz dolls made me wonder: what happened to my childhood staple, Barbie? If the Bratz dolls are the Paris Hiltons of plastic figurines, then Barbie is the Madonna: seasoned, ageless and fiercely independent. Really, you just can't find dolls as wholesome as Barbie nowadays.

Admittedly, Barbie had her flaws, too. Her tiny waist might have inspired unrealistic expectations and sparked many cases of anorexia and bulimia. Girls probably drenched their hair in peroxide because of her, and her weakness for pink convertible probably didn't do the environment any favours. But at least Barbie was more than just a spoiled brat wielding daddy's credit card.

Disproportionate figure and ghastrly affinity to anything pink aside, there was more to Barbie than her perennial prom queen disposition. Barbie was a pretty cool and accomplished chick, too. She was a presidential candidate, an astronaut, a doctor, a vet and even a military medic. But when times were bad, Barbie was willing to exchange her pricey designer duds for a McDonalds uniform and work the deep fryer like nobody's business.

She obviously did her job(s) very well, as she and her family could afford to live comfortably in the Dream House. When she wasn't busy pretending to be the sugar plum princess, she balanced her life by spending time with her multi-ethnic friends, and uselessly taking care of her younger sisters, including Kelly, whom, I suspect, was a little hell-spawn who wouldn't hesitate to touch Barbie's expensive shoes with her jam-covered paws.

Also, like any forward-thinking woman, Barbie wasn't afraid to dump her boyfriend of 43 years right before Valentine's Day. Personally, I think it's about time. One clearly can't find happiness with a man who has an identical lower body, or worse, who's a never-mad Blaine, her latest Australian boogie-boarder-boy-toy is, in many ways, a step up from Ken—as in he might actually bend at the knees.

All of these are positive attributes that all girls should learn and honestly, where else can you look for such positive female virtues. Look, Hillary Rodham Clinton isn't going tech girls how to properly apply blue eyeshadow, and it's not as if Oprah can share such life-affirming stories as living in a pink-themed Dream House. What can real life businesswomen, such as Meg Whitman, the president and CEO of eBay, teach us that Barbie can't?

While this isn't an outright condemnation of dolls, there must be better, more constructive, toys that girls can play and grow up with. Though dolls are merely toys for the odd tea party guest, the Bratz' outright frivolity and vacuous nature does more harm than good.

Actually, I sincerely hope that your parents win that fight in front of Toys R Us, because the Xbox 360 might actually be an improvement over these dolls. As least navigating through *Call of Duty 2* might improve your hand-eye coordination and physical dexterity. You'll probably end up being fat, though.

IREIS TSE  
Design & Production Editor

## LETTERS

### Who approved the royal carpets?

While reading the Gateway I was disappointed when I found out that someone had stolen two carpets out of NREF (Re: "Bagging the carpet," 29 November). I was then shocked to find out that they were worth \$2000. I had no idea carpets were so expensive. Admittedly, these were huge carpets, measuring a staggering 9 by 4 feet, and they also had the custom-embroidered engineering logo on them, to serve as another subliminal reminder that the world revolves around us engineers.

I want to know why such an expense exists when campus is already complaining about rising costs and a huge debt? Perhaps you'll claim it's to reduce student depression by exposing us to their magnificence, but if that's the case, I'll want you to explain NREF and its strikingly similar appearance to Shawshank prison.

No, I expect it's simply a case of irresponsible spending. Perhaps it's time to look around for other such examples of mislaid tuition. (Indoor heated door handles perhaps?)

And then I'll treat those carpets with a little more respect, and maybe wipe my muddy feet on something a little less expensive, like a computer.

ADAM SHYPAWSKI  
Engineering II

### Mike Smith doesn't see the whole picture

Mike Smith takes issue with the SEE/Vue piece by Gateway writer Patrick Ross (Re: "Patrick Ross needs to do some research before writing," 22 November). "Before you make judgments on this situation," says Mr. Smith, "you may want to do a bit more research."

So might you, Mr. Smith. It surely wasn't research that led you to accuse SEE of "pumping in American stories and content." As is typical, the most recent issue of SEE featured only two articles from American sources—a syndication piece on freedom of the press in Ukraine and Dan Savage's alt-sex advice column. That's a total of 38 articles. Of the remainder, only one (Josely Vogel's column) came from a non-local source. That means, Mr. Smith, that more than 90 per cent of our pieces came from local writers. We could argue, I suppose, that three of our other features came from south of the border, but I'm not sure that our crossword puzzle or the cartoons Red Meat and Tom the Dancing Bug can be shown to be advancing a corporate agenda.

Mr. Smith is arguing that because there is corporate ownership, there must be corporate control of editorial direction. He doesn't marshal any proof, and he certainly hasn't quizzed us about it, but he's convinced all the same. I could likewise claim that because Vue is printed by the Edmonton Star, the mega-corp that owns that paper must exert an influence on what Vue can or, more specifically, can't write about. However, inasmuch as that relationship might look suspicious (and per-

In wake of secular activists recently insisting on a more "politically correct" title for the "Holiday Tree," several suggestions have been made to include non-Christians in celebrating the spirit of the holidays...



Chanukah Chia



Kwanzaa Cactus



Festivus Fern



Canadian Christmas Tree

haps hypocritical, suspicion does not a vector of influence make, and I prefer to give my colleagues at Vue the benefit of the doubt.

The fact is that I've never been contacted by anyone from Hollinger, directly or indirectly. Moreover, I've never received editorial direction from our local owners either. All of the decisions about what goes in the paper come from the people who work in our office, here in Edmonton.

The only people outside of the SEE office who offer opinions on our content and direction are our freelancers and our readers, and that, I reckon, is the way it should be.

KEVIN WILSON  
Editor, See Magazine

### CaPS article biased and uninformative

It's unfortunate that Derek Larson's article, "U of A gets low grades for helping students find jobs" [24 November], fails to be an informative, balanced or thoroughly researched story.

The report card, published by the Strategic Council in association with student2wards.com, interviewed a mere 148 U of A students, rather than their perceptions of the University. Larson chooses to dwell entirely on the C- for "assistance with locating part-time jobs" rather than informing the readers about the facts surrounding the survey. He fails to mention that the U of A was rated third overall, and that the U of A also received an A+ for "reputation of the University among employers."

Larson also writes an unbalanced article. Not only does he mislead readers with a false headline and opening paragraph, he demonstrates his bias by choosing to present the U of A's grade for "assistance with locating part-time jobs" as a grade that holds second last place compared to other institutions. Alternately, he could have used the equally true statement that the U of A was tied for third place with four other universities.

Larson also failed to do his

research—the Students' Union has recently completed their own survey that includes a study of student services. This survey reports that students are aware of Career and Placement Services (CaPS) and think highly of their services.

The article itself resulted in confusion and a misrepresentation of the facts.

WENDY COFFIN  
Director  
Career and Placement Services

### Students' Council an essential organization

I sympathize with Spence Nichol's frustration (Re: "A proposal for another serious Students' Council petition question," 29 November) but I will defend Students' Council, not, as Mr. Nichol predicts, by arguing democratic principles, but with two far more practical considerations.

Mr. Nichol makes a valid point that Council debates is sometimes long and tedious, and that the benefits of bureaucratic reform are often not immediately obvious. Nevertheless, Council and its subcommittees perform a number of essential tasks. The Audit Committee, for instance, reviews the dedicated fees students pay to CJSR, APIRG, Student Legal Services and our beloved Gateway to ensure that these organizations aren't mispending these funds. Some committees create policy that directs the advocacy efforts of the executive, while others are responsible for the dispersal of student monies (such as CREC Legacy Fund and Student Groups' fund). Why does this matter? If student councils didn't do this work, Students' Union staff would, and you'd have to pay Students' Union employees. Ignoring the argument that it's perhaps important for students to have input into how their student organization is run, the status quo is much cheaper.

Second, and perhaps more important, section 95(1) of the Post-Secondary Learning Act requires that "the business and affairs of a student organization of a public

postsecondary institution must be managed by a council." Thus, getting rid of Students' Council is illegal. If Mr. Nichol wants to get rid of Students' Council, he should contact the Learning Minister, not bring a petition before Students' Council, since we follow provincial law as a general rule.

BRYCE KUSTRA  
Students' Council Arts Councilor

### Gateway fails in its responsibility to cover student issues

On 24 November, I organized a campus-wide Drag Show, and there were huge issues that I encountered.

For starters, there were a few buildings that wouldn't let me put up my posters for the event. The Business building initially wouldn't even approve my posters. They said "due to the content and nature of the show" it would be inappropriate. I told them that the whole reason we were having the show was to combat such attitudes, and if the poster had said, "Hot and hungry man fuckin' live on stage," I would have understood. Also, there was one location (Education) in which I replaced a poster four times in one day.

I then went to the Gateway, thinking a campus-wide, issue-oriented, mass-produced piece of literature could spread the word and let people know what's happening on campus.

However, at the Gateway offices I was met with confusion and a "pass-the-buck-to-the-next-guy" type of an attitude—so I e-mailed the three separate people I was told to contact, wrote an article, gave the event info, and gave my contact info. Not one person responded, or got in contact with me.

What bothers me the most is I planned, implemented, and carried-out a campus-wide event, and not one mention of this event in a newspaper that is meant to be for students about students here at the U of A.

PLEASE SEE LETTERS • PAGE 11



## Edmonton's a dirty whore—but I love her



JOSH  
KIENNER

Edmonton is basically one giant suburb.

That's the best I've been able to come with when describing my home city to people that I've met. Like a bowl of ice cream without the cherry; like a hockey season without any playoffs; like sex without a degrading facial at the end; Edmonton is a whole bunch of houses, malls, bike paths and hobo's that just happen to be situated relatively close to one another. It's not really a city; it's incomplete.

Before Bill Smith drunkenly crawls out of the dumpster he's been living in since losing last year's election and, in true Edmonton form, stabs me to death, I'd like to clarify something: I don't just like this city. I feel the same way about Edmonton as I do about the emerging mustache trend: I love it (despite the fact it makes me feel a little gay).

Saying the above is akin to telling your girlfriend she's a fat ugly whore and then rationalizing it by telling her that's what you like about her, but it's the truth. I like the fact that Edmonton isn't a typical big city, and I think that more people would feel the same way I did if we embraced this instead of

"Edmonton isn't a stud, but he's not a retarded drunken hobo, either. That's Thunder Bay. I think that everyone (including himself) would like Edmonton much more if he ditched the sleeveless Armani Exchange tee and just got his fucking millwright ticket."

trying to fight it.

Mainly because I'm very lonely and don't have any friends, but partially because it helps to illustrate my point, I like to think of cities as people. Toronto is the rich-kid valedictorian that beats up his lads in the morning and hippies at night. Montréal is the bilingual vegan in the ironic 4x vintage tee and the hilariously un-ironic \$300 jeans that pretentiously scoffs at people for reasons even she isn't sure of anymore. Calgary is basically Nick Lachey, and Edmonton is a dude who just got his grade 12 and is working for now, but is thinking about maybe getting his millwright ticket.

He might not be too flashy, but aside from his strange proclivity for stabbing things, he's a pretty solid dude. At least he is until he goes to High Grade, buys an Energy shirt and trades in his P-150 for a Supra because he wants to try to be Toronto's buddy, or bang Montréal. Then Edmonton is a fucking loser.

I think an example of this is Edmonton's LRT—building it was the municipal equivalent of buying an Energy shirt. I think that public transit is great, but really, what business did a

city that had only 475 000 residents have with an LRT? It's ridiculous, and it seems that the driving force behind creating it wasn't necessity, but that "big cities" ought to have rail transit.

I don't think that Edmonton should stop trying to improve itself. Urban sprawl, downtown, and, of course, the fact that we have 6.2 million stabblings per year are all issues that need addressing, and progress on them should be applauded. What shouldn't be applauded is the continued belittling of our city by people who compare it to places like Montréal that are four times as old and not located on the edge of oblivion.

To return to the shitty people-city metaphor that I've been attempting to prop up this article with: Edmonton isn't a stud, but he's not a retarded drunken hobo, either. That's Thunder Bay. I think that everyone (including himself) would like Edmonton much more if he ditched the sleeveless Armani Exchange tee and just got his fucking millwright ticket. Which, in case you were wondering, is, in this particular metaphor, the municipal equivalent of building a giant robot battlezone.

## Media portrayal of Rolston's murderers disgusting



JONN  
KMEICCH

The Ten Commandments stated that "Thou shalt not kill." While I hated that movie, and don't particularly care for Charlton Heston, I agree that the idea's pretty good—our society wouldn't get far if we ran around killing each other blindly. Recently though, a murder was blindly committed, and if Moses could see how the perpetrators were being morally defended, he'd be pissed off enough to dust the burning bush.

By now, most people who read or watch local news have heard about the tragic death of Shane Rolston two weekends ago, which stunned the community of Sherwood Park. At a party, in a house that wasn't his, Rolston responded to a knock on the door, only to be struck across the head with bats and metal pipes. He died of his injuries in hospital. The incident was about a missing cellphone.

The five teenagers responsible for his death were charged with first-degree murder and assault with a weapon. In the *Edmonton Journal* last week, several people who knew the men described them with strong words.

"It's terrible for them. They're

good kids," said a friend of the men. "They're just really beautiful kids and that's no lie. Unfortunately, something happened that turned their world upside down," said one of the fathers of the accused. Am I missing something? Did they not just play a role in someone's death, acting on their own free will?

After reading the entire article, I realized they were getting sympathy for their actions. It mentioned that one of them helped serve dinner to the homeless one Thanksgiving. They all played sports together, and hung out at parties. There was a picture of them smiling, and smiling school photos. The accused were being made into victims. From reading this, it made it sound like these men were just plain unlucky to have been in the wrong place at the wrong time. With pipes and bear spray.

Four of the five students were 18 when the crime occurred, while the other one turned 18 the next day (and is charged as a youth). Once you turn 18, you're no longer a child under Canadian Law, and the families and friends of the accused need to realize this.

Yet, in the article, they're frequently referred to as kids. Long before you're of legal age, you're expected to be responsible for your own actions, and to understand that it's wrong to assault and kill someone. This is brought to the attention of most of us by the time we're five, and is definitely part of our

character by 18. A family friend of one of the boys was paraphrased as saying that the men "were terrified to find themselves in custody charged with a serious crime." It would seem that they're still oblivious to this fact.

It's understandable that their friends are distraught over their situation, but they should be sad over the choice their friends made, not with its consequences. Their sympathy should be towards the victim's family. It's not terrible for the killers—it's terrible for Shane Rolston and his family.

This is partly the media's fault. If they had just printed the facts about this issue, it would be difficult to come up with the same argument. Instead, we hear how the accused killers liked to shoot pool and play hockey. This is wrong; our emotions shouldn't be manipulated to create empathy for these adults who committed a murder over a missing cellphone.

The responsibility of individuals for their actions is a hallmark of our society. As adult citizens, we agree to live by these responsibilities or face the consequences. Shane Rolston was acting as a designated driver that night; he was 17 and he understood his responsibilities. His murderers didn't, and now they should pay.

Moses yelled from his rocky plateau that, "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain." But it's a goddamned shame that this innocent young man won't live to become an adult himself.

Building.ore-mailedtoopinion@gatewey.volverta.ca.

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libelous or otherwise hateful in nature.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the name, student identification number, program and year of study of the author, to be considered for publication.

LETTERS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

My biggest problem is that you can have full-page articles on bands no one has heard of, a front page story can be about a Lego-replica of a building, and a whole article on the life-threatening as-sack issue in SUB, but you can't talk about a sold-out event right here on campus, mention that this campus is secretly homophobic or discuss that the "money-draining PowerPlant" was at capacity for the first time this year.

Everyone who was at the Drag Show had a fantastic time. With the success of the event, you might wonder why I'm so angry with this campus. Because it shouldn't be this hard to make an event like this happen.

JEFF LINGCH  
Education Alumnus

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union

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## If only I could breathe money

Who needs clean air when we're filthy, filthy rich?



SCOTT C.  
BOURGEOIS

I like money. Who doesn't, right? It's a precious resource that allows you to indulge yourself in luxuries... or, I suppose, necessities if you're a student in Alberta. The point is this: money is the most important thing in the world. More important, in fact, than the world itself.

And I'm not the only person who thinks so. Indeed, many have followed this simple philosophy to become some of the richest, most powerful people in the world. Take a look at the entire Bush administration. I feel awe just looking at pictures of those guys. They have it all, and it's because they just don't give a damn about the Earth.

As you may or may not know, the largest "climate change" conference since Kyoto has just geared up in Québec. Delegates and experts from 140 countries have arrived to prowl about the human effects on climate change, and to make projections of our long-term effects on the environment.

Of course, my heroes in the Bush administration think this is all a big farce. They even said so, publicly. Then—and this is the best part—they told the entire world that the US does "more than most" to combat climate change. Isn't that rich?

Bush himself doesn't even believe in climate change. And why should he? There's no real proof that global warming is real, and anyways, it would hurt the US economy to enact climate control treaties such as Kyoto. I mean, the United States is the largest oil-consuming country on the planet, sure. But look at China and India! They're really starting to develop industry over there, and one day, they might even be polluting as much as the United States. So why should America have to cut

down on more emissions than them?

And just like that, the US didn't have to bother with Kyoto. What does the rest of the world know, anyway? Clearly, they're just jealous of the US, and want to hurt its economy.

Further proof of the success of this wonderful philosophy can be found in the US' exemption from new methyl bromide laws. For those of you not in Ag/For, methyl bromide is a powerful pesticide that's injected into soil. It's quite effective, increasing crop yields by annihilating insects and weeds. Unfortunately, it's also highly poisonous, and as bad for the ozone as pointing a hundred aerosol spray-cans directly into the sky.

**But who the hell cares about that stupid ozone layer anyway? Or a few lower-class farmhands?**

Oh, and there's also a small human cost. Apparently some people may have suffered irreversible neurological "damage" as a result of inhaling methyl bromide. Seriously, stop complaining, we don't want to hear you whining.

But who the hell cares about that stupid ozone layer anyway? Or a few lower-class farmhands? Especially when saving them would cut into profits! The US used a treaty clause that allowed them exemptions because phasing out methyl bromide would cause "market disruption." Pow! Take that, Earth. The US doesn't take that kind of shit from anyone, not even you.

So next time you're in the Tory atrium, just ask any business student, "Is a flourishing economy better than a breathable atmosphere?" The answer should be "yes" ten times out of ten. And if the business student does say no, report them to the Dean of Business, and they'll be thrown back into the Arts program, where the hippies belong.

## Be ashamed—my father was kinkier than you



AMANDA  
TIERMER

Before I went to university, my father sat me down and told me, in shamelessly graphic detail, about his experiences at the University of Guelph. Although I'd like to go into the sordid details, this is an article, not a novel. He was a busy man. Basically, he explained how his generation experimented with drugs, sex, and radical ideas. He hated rock and roll.

"The university student," he told me, "lives for the moment, and seizes the day. When you're young, the future isn't tomorrow, and that's how it should be what you learn, but what you experience."

Then he continued gazing into the distance, envisioning a wonderful story of intoxication, eccentric characters, beautiful women, soccer practices and somehow managing to get a degree without becoming addicted to caffeine, studying until his eyes bled or developing an ulcer before finals.

As a consequence, I went to university with a lot of expectations. Then, after a year, I realized a few things about our generation: as teenagers, we're expected to get high marks in the hopes of being accepted into a good university. Instead of partying with our friends, we party with Shakespeare, Hitler, Darwin and Newton.

As university students, maintaining a good grade point average is crucial. Our future employers will only view us as worthy additions if we've demonstrated our ability to succeed. To attain this high average, we log in endless hours at the library.

As workers, we'll save our money, hiding it in a reputable bank to be nurtured so that it will grow. This will leave just enough for the bare essentials. After all, aside from investments,

we'll have to save money so our children can have the same opportunities that we did. Instead of spending our money, we'll put it aside for the future.

After years of hard work and ingenuity, we'll be exiled from the work force and given our prize: retirement. We can then do almost anything for a few years. Some people buy recreational vehicles and camp, others collect stamps and wait patiently for death. We won't have to worry about the future anymore, since there won't be much left.

We'll probably be quite content, assuming we've made the proper preparations, but maybe in some of our darkest moments, we'll question our actions. Was the RV worth your youth? Or would it have been better to be like my father, and have many lovely tales to tell, instead of lamenting the hours spent in pursuit of the future?

Vachel Lindsay once wrote about poverty in a poem called *The Leaden Eyed* that can be interpreted to represent both physical and emotional deprivation:

**THE BURLAP SACK**

It's the end of the semester, so I can accept a substantial cut into my usual sleeping schedule—it's time better spent studying for finals or finishing an essay I'm okay with that. It's part of the university experience.

But when I do find time to bed down for my nightly one-and-a-half hours of shut-eye, I want a night filled with dreams of supermodel hot-tub parties, not ear-splitting beeps and boops.

So this beating goes out to that asshole that parks his shitty Beamer outside my apartment window every night and whose car alarm is way out of control.

The worst part isn't that wayward

"Not that they starve, but starve so dreamlessly. Not that they sow, but that they seldom reap... Not that they die, but that they die like sheep."

Perhaps this campus could do with a little less bleating. Doesn't anyone find it strange that people are studying in Tim Hortons at 5am on a Saturday? Isn't it sad that a gorgeous girl had to write an article on how no one flirts anymore? Have you ever cried after failing an exam, because it feels like you're going to fail in life?

Let's stop being so serious, and act our age. Go on, get the lip ring. Make out with the shady guy you met at *Filthy McNasty's*. Do what you love, don't live for your resumé. Get drunk on a Tuesday. Experiment with your sexuality. Play a few hours of *Warcraft*. Fall madly in love. Be responsible, but not at the expense of your life.

What's wrong with this generation? We always pursue a goal just far enough in the future to prevent us from seizing the day. We've repressed so much, becoming serious and programmed. Our parents have more spare than we do. Aren't you embarrassed?

oxygen molecules are setting it off. Or that I am awakened no less than four times a night.

It's not even that you had to go to work one of those cute custom alarms, so it sounds like I've got a fucking state fair on my balcony.

It's the fact that your goddamned alarm must have cost more than the whole frigging car.

So, for adding to my sleep deprivation, my friend, you have an appointment with the sack, for a savage beating. Right after my nap.

SCOTT LILWALL

*The Burlap Sack is a semi-regular feature where a person or group who needs to be put in a sack and beaten is actually administered. Even though, a lot of the time, they probably should be.*



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# 'Twas the month before Christmas

Which means exam time; please read all about it, and forgive me the rhyme



EVAN SMITH

It's the week before finals, and all through the campus, students of all sizes have found a new purpose. Your best clubbing shirts have been folded with care, and now hoodies and sweatpants are standard dress wear. The books, still in plastic, are opened to read, then to study and focus until your eyes bleed. First-years are stressed out because this is all new, while the fourth- and fifth-years ... well, they're stressed out too.

While the deadlines and derivatives floated round in my head, I looked for a SUB couch to use as a bed. Many were dirty and covered with swine, but compared to the floor they still looked quite fine. I threw myself down on the couch with a clap, then settled down to a cool winter's nap.

Several hours later, I awoke to a bell. "What the god-felching fuck?" I said. "What the hell?"

The place was empty for the first time I'd seen. No vagrants at all—this must be a dream. I proved myself wrong with a painful flinch, as my fly had delivered a *Something About Mary*-esque pinch. When I finally recovered from this test I dare not

repeat, I went off to in search of a Homo sapien to greet. My hunt was arduous—I was pushed to the limits. That's an outright lie—I gave up after two minutes. But then suddenly, to my self-soiling surprise, a man burst through the doors with cerulean eyes! "Jesus!" I shouted, and he said "That's a common mistake. I'm Santa Claus, and I'm 332 days late!"

Confronted as I was with the absurdity of the situation, I tried my best to get all the facts into equation. We had Santa Clause here, the great giver of gifts, and his untutored self, whose mind flutters and drifts.

**"That wasn't helpful, you lying fat bastard. Those are all the skills that I've already mastered."**

"Look, jolly fat man," I said all politely, "Let's make a deal, or else you can fight me. I've got jackboots of info I need crammed in my brain, but it's not that one-sided—you've got something to gain. I see your postal service is kind of a mess, I leave poor children in states of distress. So I've got an idea that I might let you use, but if you don't do deals, we can get all ninja kung-fu."

Santa frowned and didn't speak, but he got the gist: for the rest of my life I was on the naughty list. After a few long moments of uncomfortable ten-

sion, dear Nicolas let loose some profanity I dare not mention. The impasse continued, but the old man lost his zeal and, disgruntled, informed me desperation forced him to accept my deal.

"I can help you," he said, "Although not directly. The brain-cramping device is for Ms Margaret Stechly. I have some resources I think you can use, so settle back while I tell you the news. Read your damn books, they're there for a reason, which is not to keep your night table balanced four seasons. If you run into something you don't understand, check the class notes that you wrote in shorthand. If, after that, you're still confused, then online assets can be abused. Check Sparks Notes or Coles Notes, or in desperation Wikipedia. If that's too high-tech, check a library encyclopedia. Try coffee, try vitamins, try eating right. Get buddies for studies and pray to Vishnu. I'm sorry to say that all the help you'll get. Your end of the deal will now have to be met."

"That wasn't helpful, you lying fat bastard. Those are all skills that I've already mastered. So fire your workers and move to the Alps, sell your image to Coke and live on royalty payouts. Quit making deliveries—mail out notes, not gifts. Write, 'Parents: get presents for your own goddamn kids.'"

The old man looked over with a devious smile. "Merry Christmas, young cherub, and good luck with your finals."

## Save yourself—read your professors' reviews



CYRUS DASTOURI

The other day, I was frantically trying to take notes from lecture slides traveling at their usual film-like pace of 24 frames per second when I was blindsided by my professor, who stopped mid-lecture and asked for a volunteer. My class and I were scared, thinking he was about to begin one of his favourite pastimes—publicly humiliating someone who can't complete a concept on the board.

Fortunately, he pulled out some very familiar scantron forms, and everyone let out a sigh of relief. They could only mean one thing: it was time to evaluate our professor. Not only were we going to be dismissed early, but we'd be able to tell the University what kind of rubbish we were subjected to in class. When I finished writing my two cents, I left the class with the euphoric feeling of sweet vindictive justice having finally been served. However, I couldn't help but wonder, where does all that information go?

Well, you might be as surprised as I was to discover that all of our Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) results are not only given to the university administration, but are also given to our Students' Union, where they're processed into an archive for students to access. Unfortunately, this site is among the many services that our Students' Union provides but doesn't publicize. Although, when I actually logged in to check some results, I figured out why it's such a secret. The archive requires a statistics degree to understand some portions, and the student body is only given

"No one has any way of knowing who submitted these ratings. It could be students, professors, the professor's mom, the professor's dog or the professor's disgruntled ex-girlfriend. There are also some people who use the website to personally attack professors because they failed due to their own stupidity."

access to the scantron results.

Now, I don't want to say that those carefully pre-scripted questions aren't useful. But, what I'm interested in seeing is those passionate comments that students scribble down while their face is turning purple. I want to get the dirt on the professors that I'm going to spend the next four months of my life staring at. Were his exams insane? Was the textbook useless? Did she have a sense of humour? Does she sleep with her students? Unfortunately, professors and department chairs are some of the very few people who get to read them. As a result of such policies, websites like [ratenmyprofessors.com](http://ratenmyprofessors.com) have emerged to help students screen their professors before they register for courses. This particular website currently has over 12,000 ratings for about 1600 U of A professors. With such a substantial number of ratings, it actually makes the website a useful tool, rather than something to entertain people. Their system allows anyone to rate their professors based on helpfulness, clarity and easiness. If students are so inclined, they can even rate them "hot" or "not." Most importantly, you can leave a detailed comment about your classroom experience for everyone to read.

Currently, the University of Alberta's best-rated professor, with more than 50 ratings, is Gordon Lee of the Economics department. If you're registered for his class, you'll be happy to know your peers said that he has the "best stories," "teaches so clear," and "has a great sense of humour." If

you're registered for one of the many bad professors on campus (who will remain anonymous) you may want to re-register, as some of the warnings are, "Don't trust her notes, they're wrong," "Do not try to give your opinion," and, "Cannot speak English." These are some examples of the many useful comments that are censored in our University rating system.

However, there are critics of websites like this. No one has any way of knowing who submitted these ratings. It could be students, professors, the professor's mom, the professor's dog or the professor's disgruntled ex-girlfriend. There are also some people who use the website to personally attack professors because they failed due to their own stupidity, and are bitter about it. The website doesn't ignore these problems, as they have guidelines and moderators that review all submissions, but students should use their best judgment before taking these ratings to heart.

Both the USRI's results and online websites have their problems and benefits. Instead of trying to figure out which is better, I suggest that students use both resources to their full advantage. If you got stuck with a professor like I did above, then you need to use the USRI to try to get administration to give him an attitude adjustment. But, if you want to be able to avoid professors who think they're god's greatest gift to humanity, then rate your professor online as well. Help those who come after you—because hot professors are great.

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## You're so money, baby. And you don't even know it

Do you break out in hives whenever you have to talk to a girl? Do you have trouble making eye contact with the opposite sex? Don't worry. The Gateway's resident Cassanova Tim Peppin drops a few tips on how to connect with the ladies.

### The Preamble

Chances are, unless you're a diagnosed asexual, a genius or a sheep-farmer, a great deal of your everyday activities and efforts are directed towards increasing your sexual fitness, whether you consciously realize it or not. We are, after all, animals, albeit strange ones, and as such are compelled by some four billion years worth of evolutionary imperative to seek the propagation of our genes. This can be a rather compelling urge, as you may have noticed, particularly if you drink. Sex underlies our social structures, our personal interactions and our individual quests for happiness.

So, given the importance of the sexual struggle, the significant advances in our scientific understanding of human behaviour, and our culture's proclivity for formalized instruction, it's a rather curious fact that we've never taught how to properly go about it. I can't help but think that the three hours per week I spent in my second year of university learning about the significance of wheat in ancient Egypt might have been better spent devoted to detailed instruction on the art and underlying theory of attracting females. A thought for the University's administration, perhaps.

In any case, I think that humans have rather simple and well-defined needs and motives in their sexual behaviour; the understanding of which can make the difference between fulfilling sexual and emotional relationships, and lonely nights spent masturbating to 7th Heaven re-runs before crying yourself to sleep.

Before I get started, a little more explanation is needed. Bear with me. I'm writing this feature entirely from the male perspective. There are a few reasons for this. First is that it's the perspective I have, obviously enough, and the one from which I feel competent to speak. Second is that girls, or at least a great many more girls than guys, have been learning about this nonsense since they hit puberty. Most guys, as a consequence of being more interested in video games and farts than advanced relationship strategies during their formative years,

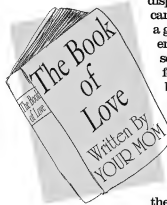
are at something of a disadvantage. As I am a compassionate and caring individual, deeply concerned for the well-being of my fellow men, I would like to offer some information to help recover lost ground. Last is that, for reasons I hope will become clear by the end of this feature, the onus is on males to initiate and successfully navigate romantic contact. Since sex and relationships are important to the happiness of males and females alike, the feature is written from the male perspective, but not exclusively for the male benefit. Oh yeah, it's heterosexual, too. I don't know how to date men, but I suspect it's something similar.

### The Background

Most guides to dating and relationships, including your father, mother and overpriced soft-core porn magazines, all fall in a fundamental way. They will typically offer specific advice or strategies on some aspect of dating, removed entirely from the context of humanity's social and evolutionary history. If they do try to explain female attraction to traits such as body size or valour in the context of our collective past, it's usually with the ridiculous example of a male having to fight off sabre-tooth tigers at a cave mouth to protect the helpless females inside. Explanations like this fail to provide a broad and accurate picture of what motivates male and female behaviours and desires—they give flashes and glimpses of some larger structure, but never firmly establish the ground on which it's actually built.

In order to understand why many of us act the way that we do, and why females desire certain traits, we need to have a look at our past. Humans, like most primates, are social animals, relying on the group to provide for many of their individual needs. In many ways, this is a great strategy—the group offers many advantages over solitude: security, a more stable food supply and more mating opportunities. However, nature isn't democratic, and a hierarchy is quickly established. Those in positions of power and influence, presumably because of traits that are genetically inheritable, receive a disproportionate share of the benefits conferred by the group—life is easier for them, and for those allied with them.

Feature by Tim Peppin  
Illustrations by Mike Robertson  
Photo by Iris Tse



### Not if your life depended on it, hippie

- Don't ever tell an attractive female that she's beautiful as an opener—it indicates that you're boring, unoriginal and inferior.
- Don't ever offer to buy a girl a drink—it means you don't believe you're good enough on your own or you need her to be drunk. She will immediately lose respect for you.
- Don't ever put a female on a pedestal—this is psychological suicide.
- Don't ever say negative things about yourself—this does nothing but work against you. You won't be alluringly melancholy, you'll be undesirable.
- Don't ever have a friend approach a girl for you—it's revealing.
- Don't hold your drink at chest height, and always hold it in your wrong hand—the first is a defensive gesture, the second ensures your hand isn't clumsy.
- Don't ever say, "I don't know, what do you want to do?"—it shows that you're indecisive.
- Don't ever assume the number you've been given is real—read it back to her incorrectly. If she doesn't correct you, tell her she wouldn't be worth your time—and walk away.
- Don't ever be afraid to stand up for yourself.
- Don't ever use the phrase, "By the merciful hand of Poseidon."

We also have to understand the difference in strategy between the sexes for all of this to make sense. Males invest very little in reproduction. Sperm are cheap and dispensable—enjoy the pun. Males also aren't forced to carry the offspring. Females, on the other hand, invest a great deal in reproduction—not only in terms of energy, but also in reproductive time lost. As a consequence, males tend to be much less selective than females when it comes to sex. Females, however, must be much more discriminating—they not only need their offspring to survive, they must also try to mate with the best male possible, thereby improving the genetic stock of their offspring.

Tie these two ideas together, and you have your brutally abridged explanation: males are often in direct competition to establish themselves near the top of the hierarchy, gaining a large share of its rewards. Females, to capitalize on these benefits, and to ensure that their offspring are likely to inherit these successful traits, ally themselves with these successful males, and mate with them. It's in this context that human sexual politics makes sense. To understand what females desire, then, we have to examine the qualities that make a male successful within his own social group.

The advantages conferred by physical size and aggression are obvious—the more powerful male always has recourse to violence to establish his place and rights within the group. However, there are other very important traits: because politics is a subtle and dangerous game, ambition, wisdom and intelligence can be prized. Having a skill or needed talent increases social value. The ability to build trust and form alliances and friendships is incredibly important—what we now call charm. Boldness, daring, bravery—all things that increase the probability, were an opportunity to arise, that the male possessing them would seize an opportunity to rise in the hierarchy. These traits, when combined, produce the ethereal property confidence—the single most desirable quality a man can have.

It's not competition from the outside world that dictates these desired properties, but competition from within the group itself. It's not a man's ability to fight sabre-tooth tigers that makes him desirable, but his ability to gain, through whatever means are available to him, a disproportionate share of the benefits of society. Our social and physical environment is much different than the one in which we originally evolved. These sexual preferences, in a very real way, can be perceived as vestigial. The important thing is for a male is to display traits that

would have been adaptive in that environment, but to curtail them in accordance with the expectations of our modern society.

"Sweet Christ," you're probably saying, "never in all my days have human sexual politics been explained so clearly. Truly my father has failed me." There, there. There, there.

But by golly, we're not done yet. Understanding the underpinnings of human behaviour is important, but it won't help you directly. Those underlying motivations are still there, but they're hidden beneath cultural norms, fashionable haircuts and expensive clothes.

### The Attitude

The single most desirable property a man can possess is confidence—confidence in his behaviour, in his thoughts and beliefs, in his choices and in his desirability. Humans, in large part, believe what they're told. If, through your actions, words and mannerisms, you tell someone that you're unique, self-sufficient and desired by others, they'll believe you. If you don't feel that way naturally—and most of us don't—there are two things you need to do: start making changes in your life so that you do feel that way, and learn how to fake it in the meantime.

Learning how to approach and impress females, like anything else worth doing, takes time and concerted effort. A good deal of that time should be spent improving yourself, so that you feel more confident. If you feel insecure about your body, start working out. If you feel physically intimidated sometimes, take up a martial art. If you don't feel smart, read some good books. Get a hobby. Examine yourself honestly, and find out what you're afraid of. Then do whatever you can to face and conquer those fears.

Far easier said than done. I know, so let's have a look at how to be a faker. The most telling signs of confidence are found in someone's body language. Start observing it. Fidgeting, muscle tension, rapid movements, repetitive gestures, crossed arms, looking down, leaning away from someone, unwillingness to make eye contact, nervous laughter—these can all indicate a lack of confidence.

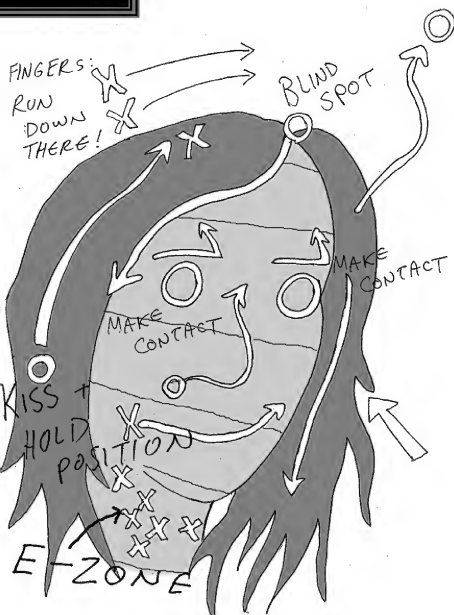
Confident body language, on the other hand, is characterized by openness, and a willingness to interact. Calm eye contact, easy, warm smiles, slow, fluid motions, bold posture—these all indicate that you're comfortable and in control. Females tend to be incredibly astute assessors of body language. If your words say one thing, and your mannerisms another, they'll pick up on it, and fast.

"My Mom told me to just be myself, though," you might be thinking. "And that if I'm patient, the right girl will come along." As painful and disconcerting as it may be, you must, if only to honour me in the spirit of open discussion, consider the possibility that your mother didn't know what in the sweet fuck she was talking about. The odds are good that the right girl has already "come along"—most likely several times. But unless you have the confidence and the knowledge necessary to approach and impress them, it won't make a bit of difference how many go by. They'll continue to do just that—go by.

Many people treat "just being themselves" as an excuse to avoid facing their own shortcomings and insecurities, and their own lack of knowledge. Aside from agoraphobes, convicts and Antarctic researchers, most people, in the run of a year, have encountered hundreds of people that they could potentially date. That this doesn't happen, when these people clearly want it to, indicates that what they're doing naturally isn't working. If "being yourself" means "doing things the way I always have," then learn to be somebody else.

No one tells aspiring musicians to just scrape a bow across some strings, and wait for an audience to show up that will appreciate the beauty, depth and sophistication of their music. Being a successful musician requires formal knowledge, an appreciation for the tastes of your audience and a good deal of practice. Once you start progressing, your natural self will come out too. If "just be yourself" doesn't apply to music, then, by God, it doesn't apply to dating.

Rejecting the advice to "just be yourself" doesn't mean that you should be phony, or pretend to be something you're not. It means that you need to learn and apply the subtleties of body language and conversation to your





interactions, to cultivate a deep sense of respect for yourself, and to ruthlessly examine and correct your own deficiencies. If this all seems like too much work, there are ten seasons of *7th Heaven* out there, and Vaseline is a mere \$6 a tub.

There are two things that, unless you're a rock star, you must do to get a female. First, you have to approach them, and second, you have to talk to them. There's a good deal to know about each of these steps. So let's look at the approach.

### The approach

Your weapons: bold eye contact; warm, confident smile

Understand and accept that it's up to you to establish contact. Females will not typically do it for several reasons—it's a risk, which carries with it the unpleasant possibility of rejection, and more importantly, it's also a crucial first test that a male must pass. More on tests later.

How you approach depends on the context. Always remember that, with few exceptions, females want to feel safe and unthreatened. Males are typically larger, and are potentially dangerous. Your methods, then, will vary with your location, the amount of light and the number of people around. An approach in a lecture hall is different from an approach in a bar; an approach on a group is different from an approach on an individual. Also remember that females want to be approached by someone confident and self-assured, irrespective of the setting.

Before making any sort of personal contact, observe her—if you have the opportunity. Does she look shy and uncertain? Does she look arrogant and condescending? Does she get a lot of attention, or does she have a friend who overshadows her? All of these things will affect your approach. Remember that the great majority of girls are normal, kind people who aren't out to deliberately hurt you, and that all of them have insecurities, and want to be liked and respected.

The first thing you need to do is establish eye contact, and read her body language.

We all know, through instinct or experi-

ence, the normal duration of meaningful eye contact is to last just a small fraction of a second longer than normal is an indicator of interest. A moment after eye contact is made, smile warmly at this. This expresses your interest, puts her at ease and demonstrates confidence.

There are other signs to be aware of. If her gaze drops down and then away, it's an indicator of interest—if she looks at your eyes again shortly thereafter, it's an even stronger message. Adjusting her clothes, playing with her hair, subtly opening the plane of her body to you—these are all signs that she wouldn't be averse to an approach. Know the signs, watch for them, and most importantly of all, have the courage to act upon them. You must act immediately, because from the moment that meaningful eye contact is made, she's assessing you—if you hesitate, you're indicating through your actions that you lack the confidence or social sophistication to read and act upon her signals.

Eye contact is staggeringly important. Never, ever, look away first (and please note that this is most emphatically not the same thing as staring creep-

ily at someone). Some women will test you by staring boldly at your eyes to see if you can handle the mounting tension. Calmly meet their gaze. Instead of smiling warmly at them, give them a sly smirk. This shows that you understand what's going on, and it doesn't intimidate you.

After making eye contact and smiling, calmly and confidently walk up to them. This is the approach. That's all there is to it. Next we come to the real challenge, the struggle for power and respect where relationships are either formed or spurned. How you handle yourself during the conversation will largely determine your success or failure. So let's look at how to be successful.

### The Conversation

Your weapons: the nod; the lean; the touch

Many guys think the purpose of a pickup line is to compliment a female, or to impress her with your wit. The real purpose of a pickup line is to demonstrate that you're bold enough to talk to her and, ideally, to disarm her defences by making her laugh. The body language that accompanies the line is far more important than the line itself. Unless it's sufficiently creative to convince the female that you're unique, unless you're exuding an aura of supreme confidence and appear to be using the line to have fun, or unless she's needy, a line will rarely work. By far the best line you can use is, "Hi," followed by your name, more eye contact, and a smile.

This isn't to say that there aren't other successful approaches. I've heard of guys who have Pez dispensers and Hershey Kisses on them at all times. You can tell a girl that you don't want to intrude, but you noticed something interesting about her. Her curiosity will immediately be aroused. Then string her along for a few minutes while she tries to get it out of you. Be evasive—make a game of it. If you're feeling particu-

larly bold, and if she doesn't look like she gets comments like this all the time, walk up to her and say, "Excuse me, I just wanted to tell you that you're gorgeous." Then walk away, or wait silently for a response while looking intently into her eyes. It's very important not to speak or look away after an approach like this—you're refusing to diffuse the sexual tension, while demonstrating your confidence and patience.

However you decide to go about initiating a conversation, once it's happened, get ready to be tested. So, before we continue, it's important to elaborate on testing.

You're almost there. You know she's interested in you—her body language told you. If you've approached her without hesitation, and without

## Pop Quiz, mother fucker

I've often heard, from fucking comedians, confused friends and uninspired TV shows, that women don't make sense—that they're emotional, not logical. Men, portrayed as linear, rational, problem-solving, tool-wielding barbarians, aren't supposed to be able to understand them. This is nonsense. Taken from the female perspective, and viewed through the lens of evolution, what at first glance appears to be irrational behaviour in fact makes perfect sense.

Remember that females make a much larger investment in reproduction than do males. Because of this, they're driven to be much more selective—the consequences of making a bad choice could be severe. In order to ensure that the male she's assessing possesses desirable traits—traits that he could conceivably fake—she must test him. In cultures such as ours, where individual behaviour can be curtailed by society, and not a lot of information can be had immediately, testing becomes an incredibly potent tool.

What a female is seeking by testing you is the assurance, through your responses, that you are what she's looking for. She's not trying to hurt you or attack you; she's trying to get you to prove yourself to her. The tests are as varied as desirable traits. Be ready for them.

You'll be tested on your self-assurance and integrity. If she talks about other guys, she's testing you. She wants to see if you're stable and confident in yourself. Don't

get upset, and don't get jealous. If she challenges your opinion on something, or asks yours after expressing her own, she's testing you. She wants to see if you have thoughts of your own, and the courage to stand by them. Don't become defensive, and don't change over to her opinion—say what you think and stand by it.

You'll be tested to see if you're needy. If she doesn't return your calls, or becomes conspicuously busy, she may be testing you. She wants to see if you're desperate. Don't phone or e-mail obsessively. In fact, the best thing you can do is to call her on it. Tell her, calmly and impassively, that either she wants to see you or she doesn't. If she does, then make some time; if she doesn't, then you won't bother her again. Let her know that you're willing to walk away, and mean it.

You'll be tested on how you handle stressful situations. If she starts needless fights or creates drama, she's likely testing you. She wants to see how you handle yourself. If she demands that you do things for her, tries to dictate your behaviour, or insults you, she's testing you.

If you encounter behaviour that at first seems irrational, try to understand what property of your character it might be testing. The appropriate response should come naturally from your understanding of the characteristics of confidence, and your conviction that you are a man, not a boy, and you're deserving of respect.

making her feel uncomfortable, you also know you've made a good first impression. Now, if you can hold your own in the conversation, you're set.

Many guys operate on the misguided assumption that the way to get past a female's social defences is by complimenting her, usually on her appearance, or by bringing her gifts, usually drinks. This is entirely incorrect. The way to get past her social defences is by convincing her—viscerally—that you are at least her equal, and are someone she can respect. That's it. Compliments out of context and unnecessary gifts only serve to show that you're eager to please—you're needy or desperate. These are two traits that will make females shun you as though you had "Herpes Carrier" written in pustules across your forehead.

The keys to making good conversation are being prepared and being observant. Compile a list of interesting, open-ended small-talk questions—where's she from, what does she do for fun, what's she afraid of. Do it today, and learn them. Make them second nature, so that you don't have to think about them, and can alter them as necessary. That's easy.

The most important part is, once you've asked a question, to listen intently to her answer. Don't worry about what you're going to ask next—you have questions at the ready, after all—just listen. If she's actually interested in you, she'll give you material to work from. Girls are clever that way. You must demonstrate the conversational sophistication necessary to make the dialogue relaxed and easy, and to get it away from small talk quickly. Remember to use her name often—it's the sweetest sound in the world to most people.

You should also employ subtle body language cues to make the conversation flow more easily. Lean towards her slightly. This closes the distance between you and creates intimacy. Nod your head ever so slightly when she's talking. This subtly encourages her and makes her feel comfortable in what she's saying. Last, find the opportunity to touch her. A hand on the shoulder or knee when you excuse yourself to go to the bathroom is loaded. If she says something particularly funny, touch her on the arm as you laugh. Touch is an incredibly powerful way of building rapport. These are powerful, discreet weapons. Acknowledge them and use them.

It's important at first to keep the conversation positive, and focused on her. If she mentions that she grew up in Moose Jaw, for example, don't say that you drove through it once, and thought it was a hole. This shifts the focus to you, which closes the conversation, and is insulting as well. Instead, you

## The Subtle Samurai

When talking to a girl who interests you in a social situation, like a bar or party, give her your undivided attention. Be as warm and charming as you can, and listen intently to what she says. After a few minutes, excuse yourself and go interact with other people. Smile, laugh and have fun—and don't look at her. After doing this for a while, return. Lavish your attentions on her again. Relate a funny story someone just told, talk about embarrassing moments, whatever. Stay a little longer than the first time. Then leave again and mingle. After repeating this a few times, she'll come to crave your presence. You've shown yourself to be confident and charming, proved that you have social value, and made yourself a rare commodity—something all humans naturally covet.

It's a common misconception that females don't like sex, or at least don't like it as much as males. This is an outright falsehood. They want sex, they just don't want to be used for it. Don't ever be ashamed to express your sexual intentions (in a classy way, mind you). A man that isn't interested in sex is almost as unappealing as one that's only interested in it.

Some girls date temperamental, unpredictable or abusive males not because they enjoy being treated badly, but because these males exhibit many primally attractive qualities, and, more importantly, because they don't behave that way all the time. They display a rare—and therefore precious—side of themselves on occasion. This makes them mysterious and exciting, and makes their moments of kindness and tenderness intensely valuable. What this means for the rest of us who aren't interested in being assholes is that you should deliberately develop some part of your life that you don't often display. This is why an ordinarily gruff man crying when moved is attractive, rather than pathetic. So deliberately develop an unexpected—but genuine—side to yourself, and show it to her rarely.

could ask her if she's had their famous Taco-in-a-Bag. She might reply that she has, and might even drop you a gift—like that she hates tomatoes.

This is a significant moment in the conversation. If she seems like the kind of girl who will test you later, feign good-humoured astonishment that anyone could hate tomatoes, and say something like, "You hate tomatoes! By the merciful hand of Poseidon, you just lost a lot of points there. You'd better do something fast!" You're testing her first, implying that she must prove herself to you. Your tone and facial expression are crucial at this point—you don't want to appear arrogant. You're teasing her. All the same, she may challenge you back, trying to lord her female status, usually so effective, against you. She may become incredulous and say something obvious, like, "I don't need to score points." No matter what, stay calm, and stay amused. Open your mouth in astonishment, smile at her, and fire back with something like, "And you just lost some more. Is this how you usually charm boys?" Don't be afraid that she'll leave. You're now far too intriguing.

Alternately, if she seems like a girl who just appreciates your company and attentions, tell her, in great detail, how much you love tomatoes—don't lie, and never be a phony. Be expressive, be excited. Relate a story from your childhood, whatever. After that, if you're remembering to pay attention, there should be more than enough material to sustain a conversation, and more importantly, to move on to the exploration of who she is. Move past small talk quickly. Make a special note of any quirky details about her; the more trivial the better. She'll be incredibly impressed later if you can remember them.

After you've talked to her for a while, you should leave, even if things are still going marvellously well. This is one of the hardest, strangest things to do. However, it achieves several of your ends. First, it prevents you from fucking everything up—something that's quite easy to do when talking to what is essentially a stranger. Second, it shows that you aren't needy. Third, this behaviour is bold and uncharacteristic—that makes you unique. And last, you're making yourself scarce, and therefore valuable. Leave early, and don't be swayed to stay.

The last part is the easiest, if you've done everything right up to now. Tell her to give you her number, don't ask for it. There's a powerful difference between, "I had a great time with you. Give me your number and I'll call you sometime," and, "I had a great time with you. Can I call you sometime?" The second implies that she might not want to see you again. The question you should ask yourself is, why wouldn't she? After all, you're money, baby.



# SPORTS

sports@gateway.ualberta.ca • Thursday, 1 December, 2005

## Hockey Bears set to go head to head with Pronghorns

PATRICK ROSS  
Sports Staff

When two teams moving in different directions meet, any number of things can happen. Common sense may suggest that a team that is surging should run roughshod over a team that is struggling.

Yet in the world of sports, the opposite is often the outcome.

When the Bears and the University of Lethbridge Pronghorns meet on Friday night, it will be a clash between two teams that are moving in opposite directions in more ways than one: while the Golden Bears have amassed themselves an 8-3-1 record on the season, the Pronghorns have wilted with a 3-9-2 record. While this is hardly unusual for either the defending national champions or the perennial basement-dwellers, what is unusual is the circumstances. During the 2004/05 season, the Bears outscored their opponents 146-59, while the Pronghorns were outscored by their opponents 159-68. This season, however, both of these margins are narrowing, as the Bears have, to date, outscored their opponents by a comparatively mere 45-31 in twelve games, while the Pronghorns have improved to be outscored 51-39 in fourteen.

"What's happening across Canada West is every team has good goaltending and every team has gotten better. The parity across the league from a Friday night to a Saturday night can be completely different," said Bears coach Eric Thurston.

If anything has been a struggling point for the Bears this season, it has been playing the second game of a weekend. The Bears have gone 3-2-1 on the tail end of their weekend series', with their lone game-one loss remaining a 6-2 drubbing by the Huskies.

"It's all mental preparation," said Thurston. "It's what you do the day of the game, the night before, and how you mentally prepare. When you drop the puck, if you're not plugged in, and all of a sudden you have to draw it from inside,



**CAUGHT SLEEPING** Bears assistant captain Ben Thomson and his teammates are hoping to treat the visiting Pronghorns like deer in the headlights. FILE PHOTO: GREGG BELL

it's very hard to do. Often you can't do it, because it's too late."

Last season, the Bears were absolutely dominant in four games against the Pronghorns, defeating them in all four and outscoring them 31-7. Leading the way was forward Tim Krymusa, who returned to the lineup firing against UBC this past weekend, gracing the score sheet with six points (three goals, three assists).

"Tim is certainly an offensively gifted player, but he's also very strong defensively. If you insert a player like that in your lineup, he just makes

your team that much better."

For Thurston, the upcoming series against the Pronghorns simply represents the end of the first half of the regular season, and all the adversity faced thus far is merely preparation for the second half.

"We've had the toughest part of our schedule in the first half," Thurston commented. "I've known in the past where we didn't face any adversity the whole year and we went in and we could walk through games. But then, when we went to nationals, [we faced] that adversity and

we weren't used to it."

Thurston remains not only optimistic but confident. He contends that facing early adversity last year (the Bears opened with a loss to Manitoba) made the difference at the University Cup.

"It served us well last year when we didn't get off to a great start," he said. "When we came to nationals and things weren't going very well that last game against Saskatchewan, we didn't panic and we stuck to our game plan."

The Bears will face the Pronghorns on Friday and Saturday at 7:30pm at Clare Drake Arena.

## Bears and Pandas swim team ready and rested up for JP Fiset Memorial

PAUL OWEN  
Sports Staff

Fresh off the Commonwealth Games trials, where they saw many of the country's best swimmers earn their place on the National team, the Golden Bears and Pandas swimmers are at home for the JP Fiset Memorial meet trying to earn their places on teams of their own: the ones representing the University at the Canada West Finals.

Alberta swam "as expected" according to coach Sam Montgomery this past weekend in Victoria, and didn't place anyone on the Commonwealth Games team, despite the meet's overall slowness.

**"I think particularly Andrew Symes, who qualified last year for us, needs to qualify, and we have 22 rookies and I'd like to see a lot more of them qualify. We've been resting the last two weeks in order to do just that."**

**SAM MONTGOMERY**  
BEARS/PANDAS SWIM COACH

"Looking at performance across all the participants, very few swam best times, and hardly any of the people who made [the Commonwealth] team swam best times. I think it shows that it's very difficult to swim fast this early in the season," said Montgomery. "I don't think a lot of teams were coming into this meet trying to swim fast, and looking at our times, we didn't either."

Despite the slow meet—one in which they swam in 50m lengths instead of their usual 25m to accommodate the Commonwealth trials—Mike Vanden Ham and Marla Breikreutz both swam fast enough to qualify for the CIS Nationals in the 50m freestyle event, and Jian-Lok Chang earned himself a spot at Canada West in the 200m Individual Medley, a race that sees swimmers perform freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke and butterfly.

Both the Bears and Pandas have been allotted 18 slots at Canada West Finals. Should they qualify more than 18, Montgomery has said he'll pick his team based on filling the most slots in the most events. The Bears currently have 14 swimmers qualified for Canada West and the Pandas have 13, but Montgomery hopes to see that number rise this weekend.

"This is the meet we are pointing for to get people to qualify for Canada West, so that we can focus on training only and not worry about travelling and competition during exams and Christmas," he said.

After exams, the swimmers will head south to California for a training trip before heading home to open the second semester by hosting a last-chance dual meet to give them one more shot at qualifying for the playoffs. Alberta has clearly been tapering towards this weekend, and Montgomery desires to have the remaining spots filled come Sunday.

"I think particularly Andrew Symes, who qualified last year for us, needs to qualify, and we have 22 rookies, and I'd like to see a lot more of them qualify. We've been resting the last two weeks in order to do just that," he said.

The JP Fiset Memorial goes Friday, Saturday and Sunday at the Kinsmen Leisure Complex.



**HIGH EXPECTATIONS** The Bears and Pandas swim teams are after playoff spots in Canada West. FILE PHOTO: BEN GELLEY



**MORE GOOD TIMES** Ben Kilgour (right) is optimistic that he can stay in the Bears lineup and continue his scoring ways. FILE PHOTO: MARCUS BENICE

## Kilgour hoping to stay healthy for 2006

ROSS PRUSAKOWSKI  
Sports Staff

With almost as many players in the training room as the locker room at any given point, it's been a frustrating season for the Bears hockey team. Second-year forward Ben Kilgour certainly hasn't been overlooked by the injury bug, as this season has been a continuation of a rookie campaign that saw him hindered by injury problems.

Last season, it was a nagging groin injury that eventually required off-season surgery to repair; this season, a pair of injuries have kept Kilgour on the mend. He's currently healing up after suffering a chafey horse, after being kept off the ice early in the season by what was initially suspected to be a hernia, though now doctors aren't quite sure what the problem was.

"It's been really difficult and frustrating for me. I had surgery after last year, and I was hoping to get back into the lineup and be healthy for the first time in a couple years and play a full season," said Kilgour, a 2005 CIS tour-

nament all-star. "But because of the stomach problems I've had, and now this leg injury, that's been hard.

"Our team went through some changes, and then a hard spot where I wasn't able to contribute on the ice, and I tried to be around the guys, but it's just been a tough season," he added. "Hopefully, I'll turn the corner. We've played some good hockey here in the last while, and I was lucky enough to get back into the line up and contribute. Hopefully that can continue down the stretch."

The Bears could use the offensive touch that Kilgour adds to the lineup, as they've scored just 20 goals in their first eight games without him, and then notched eight goals in his return to the line up, a game where he had one goal and an assist. According to Bears head coach Eric Thurston, it wasn't just Kilgour's offensive touch that Alberta was missing when he was out, but his work ethic as well.

"He's a very good power play guy for us," said Thurston. "He's a player that truly loves to come to the rink everyday, and he makes everybody

around him better. He's that type of player that can take others on one-on-one, work very hard down low, and he just has a true passion and enthusiasm for the game, and that's nice to see."

"Coming in here, he was highly touted and expected to make an impact, even in his first year. Since then, he's progressed as a person and a player," added Kilgour's linemate Ben Thompson. "The guys in the locker room look to him for leadership."

Despite the credit others have lauded on him, Kilgour remains modest about his success at the CIS level, and attributes a lot to his teammates. He also thinks that his experience at the CIS level, and what he gained from playing in both the WHL and the BCHL before joining the Bears, helped his development.

"Having been around for a few years has certainly let me know what the system is, but, really, the credit goes to my teammates," said Kilgour. "I've played with [Brad] Tutscheck, and [Ben] Thompson, and some other great players. You can't score goals if you don't get the puck."

### VARSITY STATS

#### Men's Basketball

Canada West standings									
Central Division									
Team	G	W	L	F	A	P			
Saskatchewan	8	7	1	665	540	14			
Alberta	10	6	4	775	769	12			
Lethbridge	6	2	4	455	490	14			
Calgary	8	2	6	650	731	4			

#### Women's Basketball

Canada West standings									
Central Division									
Team	G	W	L	F	A	P			
Saskatchewan	10	8	2	743	631	10			
Calgary	10	6	4	760	728	12			
Alberta	10	4	6	644	713	8			
Lethbridge	6	1	5	378	464	2			

#### Men's Volleyball

Canada West standings									
Mountain Division									
Team	MP	W	L	GW	GL	P			
Alberta	10	9	1	28	6	18			
TSU	10	8	2	24	7	6			
UBC	8	5	3	16	11	10			
Calgary	8	1	7	6	22	2			
TRU	12	6	6	19	20	12			

#### Great Plains Division

Team	MP	W	L	GW	GL	P
Saskatchewan	10	8	2	24	12	16
Winnipeg	8	5	3	19	10	10
Brandon	8	2	6	7	21	4
Regina	10	1	9	6	27	2

### Women's Volleyball

Canada West standings									
Mountain Division									
Team	MP	W	L	GW	GL	P			
Alberta	8	7	1	23	4	14			
Calgary	8	6	2	19	8	12			
Saskatchewan	8	0	8	1	24	0			

#### Great Plains Division

Team	MP	W	L	GW	GL	P
Winnipeg	8	7	1	21	7	14
Manitoba	10	5	5	21	17	10
Regina	8	3	5	19	10	10
Brandon	12	3	9	11	32	6

#### Pacific Division

Team	MP	W	L	GW	GL	P
UBC	8	7	1	21	6	14
TSU	10	6	2	44	45	14
TRU	10	1	9	3	29	2
Simon Fraser	8	1	7	8	21	12

### Men's Hockey

Canada West standings									
Mountain Division									
Team	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	P		
Alberta	12	8	3	1	45	31	57		
Calgary	14	6	2	4	44	45	14		
UBC	14	4	9	1	37	17	9		
Lethbridge	14	3	9	2	39	51	8		

#### Great Plains Division

Team	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	P
Saskatchewan	16	11	2	3	66	30	25
Manitoba	16	7	7	2	42	45	15
Regina	14	5	5	2	37	49	12

## SPORTS IN BRIEF

### Football

A number of Bears football players were nationally recognized this past week when CIS handed out their offensive and defensive all-Canadian awards.

Safety Jay Milne was named a first-team all-Canadian, while linebacker David Lowry and halfback Steve Boyko were made second-team all-Canadians for their defensive efforts. Departing wide receiver Andrew Ginter was named a second team all-Canadian on the offensive end.

### Athletes of the week

Fourth-year right side Dallas Soonias was named the University's male athlete of the week for his 37-kill performance this past weekend against the first-ranked Trinity Western University Spartans.

Second-year hockey Pandas forward Tarin Podloski was named the University's female athlete of the week in light of her five-point outing against the Manitoba Bisons last weekend.

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December 19 - 22 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

#### Lister Hall

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# Better jerseys, the Stanley Cup and a helicopter: a very Gateway Christmas



GATEWAY  
SPORTS STAFF

Sports  
Commentary

With just 24 days until Christmas, people's thoughts are focusing in on celebrating the birth of Jesus ... and, you know, Christmas-related stuff too. Like any subject brought up around the Gateway's sports staff, Christmas-talk got us thinking about what we'd like Santa to give to the sporting world this year.

## Patrick Ross

When I'm not taking lunch money from underprivileged orphans or stealing candy from babies, I tend to be a pretty generous guy. So one gift is just not going to do it for me.

First off, I would give the New York Yankees a soul—but that's been said innumerable times before. I would give Boston some white socks and Chicago some red socks. It's time to put a little extra colour in that wardrobe, folks.

I'd give the Houston Aeros and Hamilton Bulldogs (of the AHL) some fashion sense. Far be it for me to play the judgemental role of Mr Blackwell, but those jerseys are a crime against hockey.

Last, but not least, I'd give Terrell Owens a copy of *How to Win Friends and Influence People* and a gentle reminder that a little bit of tact can save not only your social life, but your career as well.

## Mike Kendrick

If I could fill the jolly old fat guy's boots on Christmas Eve, I'd park my eight tiny reindeer on the roof of the Saddledome and give the Flames what they truly deserve: a one-way ticket to the Stanley Cup. Of course, it's not like they're gently in need of it, but with a little "gentle persuasion" on the part of Darryl Sutter to tighten the team's offensive synergy, and to bar nitwits like Andrew Ferrence from seeing the ice until they improve on their cough-up giveaways, the Flames could take the team that extra step from last season and bring home Lord Stanley's prize.

## Ross Prusakowski

Although Christmas is a season of giving, there are far too many people who need a hand up, and not enough people around offering them.

This means that some desperate and deserving souls in the sports world will have to go without this holiday season, for the simple fact that there are teams and people far needier in the sports world.

That said, little St. Louis won't be getting that actual NHL team under the Christmas tree that they'd set their sights on. Though, if they're really good, maybe next year Santa might stick the American Sidney Crosby—Phil Kessel—in their stocking. Also, it's probably best if we told you now so you don't get your hopes up too much, Lennie Olieberman, but there's no gift of respectability—or an Ottawa Renegades cheerleader—under there for you this year either.

That's because the man in red handing out the loot—Santa Claus, not Paul

Martin—needs to find a team that's more ludicrously underprivileged, and in need a present more than either of you: the Mount Allison University Mounties football team.

When a university team that used to be respectable can go 0–30 since 2002, not make the playoffs for seven years, give up 379 points this year while scoring only 23, and set a CIS record for futility in 2001 when they were destroyed 105–0 by the Saint Mary's Huskies, you know it's going to take something special to solve their problems. So, even if Santa's just going to put the program, the players and their fans out of their prolonged misery, any present has to be better than the existence the Mounties currently have.

## Brian Ramchander

Christmas is that wonderful time of year where the spirit of giving shines through and we (hopefully) do a little extra to help the poor, downtrodden and misfortunate. Therefore, it goes without saying that the Edmonton Oilers would be at the top of my gift list.

Peter Griffin once said that, "Christmas is that mystical time of year when the ghost of Jesus rises from the grave to feast on the flesh of the living. So we all sing Christmas Carols to lure him back to sleep."

While the Oilers don't need a song to soothe old ghosts—except perhaps Igor Ulanov, who may or may not be alive, as he's old enough to have hung out with JC—they could use a new team song to stir up the spirits in Rexall. So the first thing I would give them is the exclusive rights to

"Baby Beluga," which they could blare through the PA system after every Raffi Torres goal. The sing-along potential would be off the charts, topped only by "O Canada," and "The Hockey Song."

Next, I'd give the Oilers a Delorean, a Flux Capacitor and 1.21 gigawatts of power so they could go back in time and prevent wasting \$4 million on Mike Peca. While they're back there, I'd see if they could also find Alex Hensky's front tooth. With all that extra cash available, the last thing I'd give each and every player on the team is a brand new set of golf clubs and lessons from Mike Weir. The combination should help them with their golf games, and will come in handy when they once again miss the playoffs next spring. Merry Christmas.

## Andrew Renfroe

Dear Santa,

The only thing that I want for Christmas is a new Prime Minister. That's it, that's all—not an iPod, not DVDs, not an Xbox, none of that stuff—just a new person running the show in Ottawa. Alas, it seems that, barring a miracle, I'll have to wait until January to get my wish, so for this Christmas I'd like to ask for gifts on behalf of NHL teams. Ideally, I'd like you to give the Calgary Flames pneumonia and Harvey the Hound feels, but something tells me that you're not the cantankerous bastard-type who would do that, so I'll ask for something a little more positive. Santa, could you please give the Nashville Predators and Boston Bruins better-looking third jerseys? The colour of urine is not very flattering for a team uniform. Could you please send the

remaining people in St. Louis who still cheer for the Blues a box of Kleenex, as they've watched their once-conference-powerhouse team drop to last place in the league. Lastly, I would really appreciate it if you gave Michael Peca a friendly reminder that if he scored one goal in each 20-game stretch, he'll be paid about \$1 million dollars a Christmas season—even you, Santa, can admit that that just plain sucks.

## Robin Collum

I'm sure that those teams all deserve whatever lame-ass, improbably complicated gift that you guys want them to have. Some of you might want to get cracking inventing the time machines that your presents require.

My present is both more thoughtful and more plausible than yours. I'm giving Santa Claus a helicopter. Unlike you boys, I haven't forgotten the hardworking, underappreciated group responsible for delivering all these presents: Santa's team of reindeer.

Those poor animals have to haul a sleigh full of Xbox 360s, Lego sets and Easybake Ovens to spoiled little kids who probably don't deserve to be on the "nice" list anyway. Not to mention that they have to drag Santa around, too. He's no lightweight, and that bowl full of jelly just gets bigger every year.

All the reindeer get is the wily celerity that your little brother somehow expects to be shared among all eight of them. My present would change that.

This Christmas, Santa's eight-man roster can get a breather, and Santa's brand new helicopter can wear those stupid bells instead.

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## World's worst mixtape or a nostalgic trip back to junior high school dances?

1. Goodbye Earl – The Dixie Chicks
11. My Last Name – Dierks Bentley
2. My Humps – Black Eyed Peas
12. Have You Forgotten – Darryl Worley
3. Lucky – Britney Spears
13. Who Let the Dogs Out – Baha Men
4. Will2K – Will Smith
14. Tub Thumper – Chumbawamba
5. Hamster Dance – Hampton & The Hamsters
15. We Like to Party – Vengaboys
6. Macarena – Los Del Rio
16. My Heart Will Go On – Celine Dion
7. I Wanna Sex You Up – Color Me Badd
17. Rollin' – Limp Bizkit
8. Always Be My Baby – Mariah Carey
18. www.nevergetoveryou.com – Prozac
9. Sometimes When We Touch – Barry Manilow
19. Cotton Eyed Joe – Rednex
20. Rico Suave – Gerardo



The wait is over.

The mixtape contest has come to a close, and thanks to your seething hatred towards David Berry, he will have the lucky honour of wandering around campus with a boombox playing all 20 of these shitty songs. Did we mention the sub-zero temperature?

David Berry will commence his trip from SUB and slowly work his way across the campus. This will happen at 1:30pm on 7 December, the last day of school.

Remember to bring your camera so you can capture the frozen tears of David Berry.



## Voting Results

- David Berry: 40  
Chris O'Leary: 33  
Iris Tse: 10  
Chloé Fedio: 9  
Daniel Kaszorek: 0  
Jake Troughton: 0  
Tim Peppin: 0  
Mike Larocque: 0  
Matt Frehner: 0





# Rare Panda: Rachel Sanders looks to double up on CIS gold

JAKE TROUGHTON  
Senior News Editor

At her current pace, Rachel Sanders could have ten CIS gold medals around her neck by the time she leaves the University of Alberta.

Okay, so it's not likely she'll claim a national title at every shot, but the first-year physical education student is 1/1 so far, and gunning for a second before the school year is done. Sanders is a member of both the Pandas field hockey team, who won their first-ever crown last month, and the ice hockey team, who are ranked second in the country and have won four gold medals and one silver in the last six years.

Having such successful teams in both sports is what attracted the Kelowna, BC native to the U of A, though her choice to continue playing both sports came as a surprise to many.

"I used to tell people in high school that I was going to play both, and they'd make fun of me," she says.

"Winning [field hockey gold] just seemed natural," she adds. "I couldn't believe they'd never won before, because it just seemed like the right thing for the U of A to do."

Nonetheless, coming here was something of a risk; while she was recruited for field hockey by head coach Carla Somerville, she was a walk-on at tryouts for the ice hockey squad.

"To be honest, I wasn't really expecting to make the ice hockey team," she says. "I knew they're always been strong, and that's one of the reasons I thought I'd never make the team."

Howie Draper, head coach of the ice Pandas, says Sanders stood out from the other walk-ons.

"The thing that set her apart from some of the other players was that she had the basic concepts that are so important in most sports, like the ability to find space."

So far, Sanders has definitely made more of a mark on the field. While she's only played in one conference



WHAT ARE YOU DOING AFTER PRACTICE? Practicing again. Rachel Sanders (right) is on the Pandas field and ice-hockey teams in her first year at the U of A.

game with the ice hockey team, she had a strong season in field hockey, capped off with two goals at the national championship tournament in Vancouver, including one in the penalty-stroke shootout that gave the Pandas the title.

"She scored a big goal for us in strokes at nationals, so obviously she's played well," says Somerville. "She's pretty mature, and she can handle the pressure from both teams."

"It'll get tougher as she gets into her second and third year, but if anyone can do it, I think she can," adds Somerville. "There have been a select few people who've done it in the past, and they're special people who have

great time-management skills. Better than I do."

As it happened, Draper's team was playing in Vancouver the weekend of the field hockey nationals, and they came out to cheer Sanders on in the field hockey Pandas' first game of the tournament, where she scored a goal in a 4-1 win over the Guelph Gryphons.

"That game was cool, because the ice hockey team was all there watching, and I had a great game, so it was nice to show them that all the hockey I missed wasn't a waste," Sanders says.

Sanders, Draper and Somerville all agree that the skills from each sport can prove useful in the other.

Somerville pointed out that playing ice hockey, which has much more body contact than field hockey, has helped Sanders in using her body to protect the ball on the field, while Draper noted that being accustomed to field hockey's ban on touching the ball with the back of the stick has given her an advantage in certain puck-handling situations on the ice.

Still, Draper notes that the sports are different enough to require a strong focus on the unique skills and strategies they require, something Sanders is working on.

"She's got a fairly high learning curve right now," Draper says. "Field hockey's maybe been her number one

sport, so she has to learn a little bit more ... but she's progressing very quickly, and if that continues, we might see that she'll get into more games in the second half."

Sanders is aware that she has work to do to have the same impact on the ice that she's had on the field, but with the field hockey season over, she's focusing on continuing to improve her ice-hockey skills.

"I'm used to being one of the top players in my leagues, and then I come here and everyone's so much better, so I have to work hard," she says. "I'm not used to being in that position of being the weakest player, so I have to catch up to get more ice time."

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## SOCIAL INTERCOURSE

### Santaland Diaries

Written by David Sedaris  
Saturday, 3 December at 8pm  
The Third Space

Yes, friends, it's beginning to look a lot like Christmas: the shopping malls are crammed full of frenzied holiday shoppers, Christmas carols are becoming nauseatingly overplayed and bank accounts are slowly dwindling in size.

If these contemptuous observations about Christmas manage to strike a familiar chord somewhere in your cynical soul, then you definitely have to catch this year's production of *Santaland Diaries*. For the fine folks at Northern Light Theatre, Christmas—and especially its annoyances—hold a special place in their hearts, as well as on their stage. The work of Satirist David Sedaris is returning once again, with a number of staged readings about the idiosyncrasy—and, apparently, the naughtiness—of Christmas to be performed. So, if you're up for an evening of laughs and strong eggnog, pop by The Third Space this Saturday.



### Drive by Punch

With The Fullblast and guests  
Sunday, 4 December at 6pm  
Red's

Let's face it: For Christmas, we never really get the gifts we want, so instead of dwelling on your family's lack of fashion taste this year, treat yourself to an early present by checking out Drive By Punch's CD release party happening this Sunday at Red's.

This Sunday at Red's, Drive By Punch will be headlining what is bound to be an awesome show. With four opening punk bands—including The Fullblast, Thirty Nines of Violence, A World Asleep and A Last Goodbye—and stacks of new CDs ready to be purchased, the Drive By Punch concert is guaranteed to give you everything you ever wanted for a punk-rock Christmas.

### Jorane

with Valley Forge  
Tuesday, 6 December at 8pm  
Powerplant

With the snow beginning to fall and the temperatures starting to drop, there are few better ways to spend a frosty evening than to snuggle up with Jorane's heartwarming lyrics and inspiring vocals this Tuesday at the Powerplant.

Hailing from Québec, the angelic singer-songwriter Jorane is currently touring across both Canada and the US, accompanied only by her cello. With her delicate voice and soothing instrumental background, Jorane hasn't only gained international acclaim as of late, she's also earned a number of award nominations as well. Jorane's latest album, *The You and the Now*, illustrates just how accomplished she has become by featuring a number of song collaborations with various distinguished writers. So whether you're looking to curl up beside a significant other or engage with her brilliantly intertwined lyrics, Jorane's performance next week is guaranteed to be both relaxing and motivating.

AMANDA ASH  
Arts & Entertainment Staff

## Clooney goes political in *Syriana*

Producer George Clooney and director Stephen Gaghan examine the fight over oil in the Middle East

### *Syriana*

Directed by Stephen Gaghan  
Starring George Clooney, Matt Damon, Chris Cooper, Jeffrey Wright and Christopher Plummer  
Opens Friday, 9 December

JESSICA WARREN  
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Agreeing to gain 30 pounds for a film that you're only getting paid \$1 to perform in might seem like a raw deal, but for Hollywood star and outspoken war-critic George Clooney, it was all worth it to put out a politically conscious film on the fight over oil in the Middle East. Waiving his acting fee on the upcoming political thriller *Syriana*, Clooney, who is producing the film, recently spoke out about his latest release. With this movie following up his performance in *Good Night, and Good Luck*, Clooney is solidifying his reputation as an actor/activist whose projects are increasingly a reflection of his political beliefs.

"If you're going to have a war against an idea, which is terror, then you have to understand the elements—you can't just say they're evil," says Clooney. "You have to understand what makes them do evil things, [and you have to] be able to have open conversations, as opposed to just sort of categorizing things, and understand that nothing is absolute."

*Syriana* is an attempt on the part of director Stephen Gaghan to portray multiple sides of the controversy over oil interests in the Middle East, with its title making reference to the name political elites use today for the oil-rich area in which the film is set. Filmed in over 200 locations and incorporating five languages in its script, the film aims to portray the reasons why people will compromise their basic beliefs and morals for an ideological cause. Gaghan, the Oscar-winning mind behind the screenplay for *Traffic*, has spent the last few years increasing his knowledge about American oil interests, and is set to add his voice to the chorus of public opinion about American political involvement in the Middle East.

"I had the opportunity to interview hundreds of people in America, Europe and the Middle East, and a pattern began to emerge," says Gaghan. "People were speaking in ideological terms and it was often covering self-interests. Underneath it you might find out later in the conversation exactly what they were getting from it, and it was very narrow and very specific."

The idea that what's happening in the Middle East is not only about impersonal government manipulation, but also about choices made by seemingly insignificant individuals lies at the core of *Syriana*. As Gaghan sat down to write the script for the movie, he began to see an underlying meaning in his interviews with people involved in the conflict.

"I started thinking more about the ways that we sell ourselves, those little compromises we make," says Gaghan. "You might call it corruption, but corruption is a big, broad word. The way I think of it is that it's like a little, tiny, totally local, personal moral collapse. I thought, 'What's that exact little moment where you have the feeling inside where you know what the truth is, but you give yourself a little asterisk, a little 'out.' Where do we find the hope in that?'"

Gaghan's choice to film on location has given Clooney a chance to expand on his already liberal approach to the subject of American imperialism. While filming in Casablanca, Clooney saw aspects of the culture that are often forgotten about or glossed over in Western

discussions of the wars in the Middle East.

"I remember sitting there on the roof of a building," recalls Clooney. "It was during Ramadan. A siren would go off and everyone would get out of their cars and face Mecca and would pray in the middle of the street. There were hundreds of people, as far as your eye could see."

"I was sitting there watching that and thinking that anyone who thinks that they have a religious [superiority] over anyone else should be standing here looking at these people. [They would] understand that they have a very strong belief in what they are doing as well."

It's Hollywood's portrayal of a one-sided reality that has motivated Clooney and Gaghan to create a movie that will challenge audiences and not just lay the blame for a conflict on any one "bad guy." Gaghan notes the buildup to Iraq as a perfect example of how issues can become one-sided debates.

"America's response to that act, it felt like this car named America was accelerating, like someone hit the gas, shifted to a lower gear, maybe the highlights are off, but we're careening down some hill in the dark, and I'm holding on in the backseat going, 'Where are we going?' We're declaring an axis of evil, we're talking about 'evidences,' we're going into Iraq—this is precipitous and it really affects us."

Clooney agrees, and points out that this feeling is not specific to one certain segment of the public. While it may seem like an ideology specific of a liberal mindset, *Syriana*'s portrayal of all sides to the issue has it being well received by American conservatives as well.

"We showed this [movie] to a lot of neo-cons who like it and agreed with it."

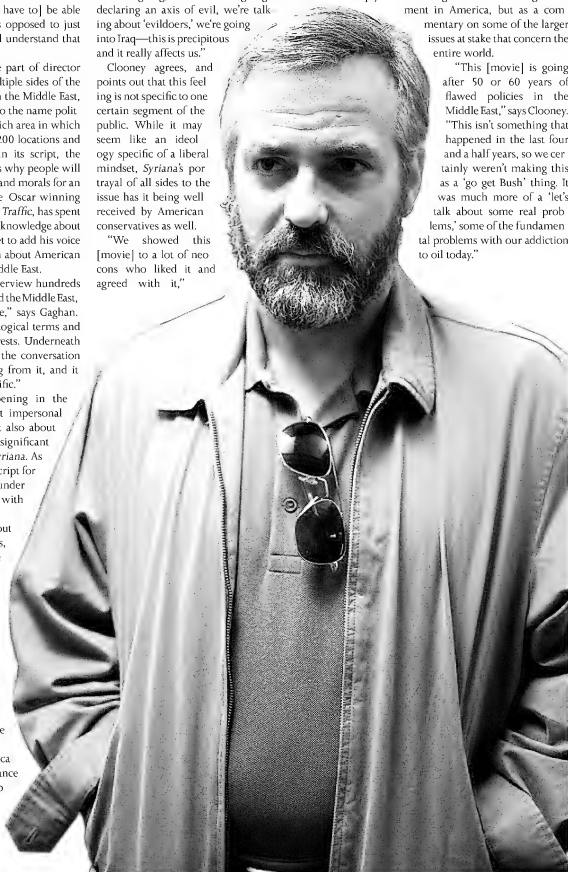
says Clooney. "Our argument ... is to raise a debate, not to tell people what the answers are, because clearly we don't have any answers for this, the issues or the problems."

Appealing to multiple types of audiences is an important aspect of a movie being released during a particularly low point in Hollywood's popularity, but Gaghan isn't trying to pander to expectations—most characters in the movie, including the Americans, spend time on morally questionable ground. Added to the multiple points of view presented in *Syriana* is the fact that most of the characters are unaware of how they really fit into the overall plot concerning American oil interests.

"They think that they all have the picture," explains Gaghan. "They're redrawing the map of Europe, they're the big seer, but in reality they're just following a really narrow band of self-interest."

Clooney's agreement to take a massive cut in pay, and his willingness to don a substantial amount of new weight for this role are testament to his eagerness to be part of *Syriana*. According to Clooney, it's important to not see the movie simply as a tirade against the current government in America, but as a commentary on some of the larger issues at stake that concern the entire world.

"This [movie] is going after 50 or 60 years of flawed policies in the Middle East," says Clooney. "This isn't something that happened in the last four and a half years, so we certainly weren't making this as a 'go get Bush' thing. It was much more of a 'let's talk about some real problems,' some of the fundamental problems with our addiction to oil today."





gateway student journalism society

## STUDENT-AT-LARGE REQUIRED

The Gateway Student Journalism Society (GSJS) requires a student-at-large from the University community to serve on its board of directors for the term ending 30 April, 2006.

Applicants must be U of A undergraduate students and may not be members of Students' Council, General Faculties Council, Board of Governors, or the Senate of the University of Alberta.

If you are interested, please submit a brief note (no more than 400 words) on what makes you a good candidate for this position no later than noon on Monday, 9 January, 2006 to the Chair of the GSJS board. Submissions can be made by e-mail to [adam@gateway.ualberta.ca](mailto:adam@gateway.ualberta.ca), or through the campus mail to Adam Rozenhart, c/o Gateway Student Journalism Society, 3-04 SUB.

Please outline previous volunteer experience and not-for-profit organization experience if applicable (though none is explicitly required).

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**BREAKING THE ICE** Tipz' singer Roz Christian gets attention, but the band is hoping their new records will turn heads.

## Icy times over for The Frosted Tipz

After a shaky recording process, Edmonton foursome The Frosted Tipz walk away with a debut album that sounds nothing at all like their live show

**The Frosted Tipz**  
with Norneansno and Tolan McNeil  
Friday, 2 December at 8pm  
Sidetrack Café

ASHLEY SCARLETT  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Breakups, poorly timed disasters and a sexy leading lady: it may sound like the latest episode of your favourite teen drama, but it's all in a part of the true-life story of the Edmonton four-piece rock band The Frosted Tipz.

Formed a little over a year ago as a collaborative side project, The Frosted Tipz have been fighting a seemingly uphill battle since their inception. But with their debut album nearly complete and ready to be released into the world, the source of many of their troubles should soon dissipate.

"The record's taking a long time," states Alan Camino, who, along with Roz Christian, Curtis Ross and Darren Cheeka, make up the group. "We started it back in February, but there's been so much crazy shit in this band since then—breakups, more breakups, travel, studio mishaps and technical problems. But today we finished mixing the album, so hopefully we'll

finally get to release it sometime soon."

The completion of the album is not only a source of great relief to the band, but has also been a way for them to tweak the songs that they've been trying out on audiences during their live sets. With a concentrated effort put into recording, The Frosted Tipz have laid down what they say are tracks representative of their perfect sound.

"I think that [shows and albums] are two totally different things," explains Camino. "You go to a rock show for a loud experience. The album is more what I want the band to sound like in my head. It's definitely a studio album. There are aspects that we can't recreate live and that we really have no intention of recreating live at this time."

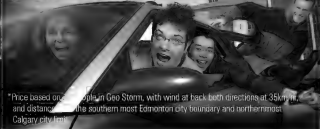
Where their live show offers a cross between Blondie and Iron Maiden with a dash of contemporary dance elements for good measure, the album is expected to move the Edmonton-based band toward a more pop-ish sound.

"We are kind of playing all these middle grounds," says Camino. "I like to write pop songs, but I can't help it if we are really loud live."

Though this discrepancy may to initially confuse some listeners, what The Frosted Tipz are offering by having the songs on their CD sound noticeably different than live shows is a double-dose of hand clapping and toe tapping that might help them to stand the test of picky listeners, as well as setting them apart amongst a sea of local acts.

The band hasn't only insured staying power through their varying sound, but also through the uniqueness they present in the Edmonton scene as one of the few female-fronted local groups. Though the band realizes that having a female singer can sometimes lead to the other band members being forgotten in the background, this possibility doesn't bother The Tipz one bit.

"I think we're certainly all putting ourselves out there as much as possible, but the public image is going to be shaped by having a good-looking frontwoman, and that's fine," jokes Camino. "[The distraction] is inevitable when you have a female lead singer, because it's still kind of unique in some aspects. I don't think we plan on ever exploiting it, but we've certainly recognized it and are willing to use it."

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**SUMMER LOVE?** Studio Theatre's latest production, *The Myth of Summer*, is written by a local and set in the city.

## Myth aims at Studio Theatre newbies

### *The Myth of Summer*

Written by Cossi Massing  
Directed by Stephen Heatley  
Starring Molly Flood, Nadien Chu,  
Shawna O'Connell, Jacqueline Russell,  
Nick Green, Michael Bridgman, Jessi  
Piggott and Grant Bjorge

JAMES STORRIE  
Arts & Entertainment Staff

If you weren't aware that the campus housed a prestigious theatre school, Nadien Chu and her fellow actors, directors and theatre technicians are hoping to set you straight with the year's third Studio Theatre play, *The Myth of Summer*.

In preparation for the homegrown production—written by local playwright Conni Massing, it features such exotic locales as the West Edmonton Mall water park—the production team has been devising an elaborate set-up involving projected backdrops and a “revolve,” a rotating stage used in plays that is a key element in *Summer*.

“The revolve works as a central convention through the play,” explains Chu, who will be playing one of the main characters, Jackie. “It helps us move the scenes along very quickly, as we turn the stage rather than changing the set, but it also serves to show the passage of time.”

The crew is hoping that their innovative approach to this production will draw in new audiences. While their production of *Candida* earlier this year was moderately successful, there's a definite worry in the drama department that the general student body doesn't know about these

productions, or is simply not motivated to attend.

**“We would love to get more students to come out to our shows, but it seems to me that theatre is becoming a thing of the past—people will go to the movies instead of coming to see live theatre, but theatre is still such an important aspect of our society, part of the fabric of who we are. It's such an important thing to support.”**

NADIEN CHU

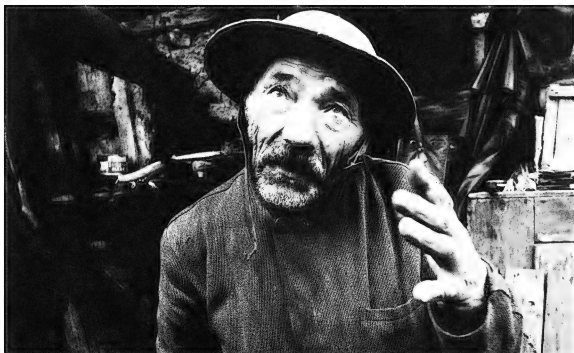
“This has been an ongoing issue for us, and we're not even really sure how to tackle it,” says Chu. “We've been throwing around so many ideas: should we be handing out handbills in SUB? Bussing somewhere? What do we need to do to start promoting ourselves to the rest of the student body? The Bachelor of Fine Arts in acting program at the University is, alongside the National Theatre School in Montréal, the best acting school in Canada. We've really got the cream of the crop as far as student actors,

but I would say that most of campus doesn't even realize we're here.

“If you're involved in drama or the acting subculture, you know about the theatre school, but for the most part, it's very isolated from the general population. We would love to get more students to come out to our shows, but it seems to me that theatre is becoming a thing of the past—people will go to the movies instead of coming to see live theatre, but theatre is still such an important aspect of our society, part of the fabric of who we are. It's such an important thing to support.”

Media coverage has been good, says Chu, and there's certainly support for Studio Theatre from those already within the city's arts community, but reaching out and engaging the student body remains a concern. As such, it's no surprise they're working hard to attract new fans, both with *The Myth of Summer* and the following productions, *As You Like It* and *Scenes of an Execution*, which will play after Christmas with their own surprise, avant-garde twists.

Chu stresses that students shouldn't be intimidated by live theatre, and that the quick and fun *Myth of Summer* will be an excellent way for novice thespians to get their first taste. “It's part comedy, part drama, a little bit of a love story, a little bit of a family-breakdown story” explains Chu. “And it's all set in Edmonton. There isn't a lot of heightened theatre language; it's all about aspects of society today, but heightened. I really think that if people came out for just this one piece, they'd fall in love with the theatre. It's going to be a blast.”



## Old World documentary as good as new

### **Pictures of the Old World**

Directed by Dusan Hanák  
Monday, 5 December at 9pm  
Metro Cinema

JAMES STORRIE

Arts & Entertainment Staff

If there's one thing that the Soviets and the directors of the Metro cinema have in common, it's being a bit nutty over film. Where as the Metro loves showing it, those old communists would take the same passion to censoring what could be played. But, as luck would have it, a rare collection of some once-censored films from Czechoslovakia have made it to the Metro's door.

Dusan Hanák's *Pictures of the Old World*, a charming and beautiful documentary charting the challenging lives of elderly Slovaks during the Soviet occupation, tips off the Metro's Slovak films series. This is not, however, a dry critique of Soviet colonial power or anything equally dull. *Pictures of the Old World* is quite simply about a handful of people and the interesting but difficult lives they live.

"Charming" can not really be said enough in relation to this film—it's

very much like spending a few hours with your great-grandfather and just listening. Keeping mostly out of the way, Hanák lets the people he interviews narrate the film, and they tell, as they should, a lifetime of stories. Some are quirky and cheerful, like the husband thrown out by his wife who roams the countryside indulging in his true passion, collecting news of the space race. Others are cynical and sarcastic, like the man living alone, tending to his flock of sheep and spending every waking hour as drunk as possible while he waits for his final year to pass.

Not everything here is laughs and sunshine, and though it's easy to get lost in the crisp, beautiful images Hanák has captured, most of these tales are ultimately unhappy ones. The old world and its inhabitants are being left behind. These grandmothers and grandfathers have been, for the most part, abandoned by the younger generation, and live hard, destitute lives. Many simply cry. The stories of husbands and wives outliving their only companions are poignant, to say the least.

Yet if anything typifies the spirit of the film, it's the story of one of the

last people interviewed. Having had his legs crushed by a toppled cart and forced to crawl on his hands and knees for help, the man would still go on to chop down trees, mix mortar, build himself a house and run his own farm. There are indeed old world images, but there is a sort of old world spirit here, too. It's no surprise that when Hanák begins interviewing the elderly villagers and asking them what truly matters in life, many of them say "work."

The touching and endearing stories of these forgotten people are further heightened by Hanák's beautiful photographic sensibility. While mostly a film—this isn't, by any means, simply a slide show—the tales distill themselves into strikingly beautiful still images, highlighting the true depth and grace of the subjects' experiences. The film itself has been well preserved, and though the subtitles are occasionally a bit obscured, the sharpness and quality of the images is fantastic.

This isn't a film to be missed, so before it leaves town, show those Soviets a thing or two and take a date down to the Metro. Just make sure they're ready to listen—*Pictures of the Old World* has a lot to say.

## Flawed French thriller almost worth celebrating

### **La Cérémonie**

Directed by Claude Chabrol  
Starring Isabelle Huppert, Sandrine Bonnaire and Jean-Pierre Cassel  
Sunday, 4 November at 7pm

KRISTINA DE GUZMAN

Arts & Entertainment Writer

From a modern-day portrayal of class conflicts to a story about a woman whose insecurities lead to tragedy, it's a bit hard trying to figure out exactly what point *La Cérémonie* is trying to make. Just as difficult is trying to figure out where the plot is going and where the sporadic actions of the characters are coming from. After a while it seems that the questions are to be left open to interpretation, because the film definitely won't be making it clear.

**While the film succeeds in slow build up to an intense climax, it fails to clearly show the motivations behind the characters' actions ...**

The movie begins with Catherine Lelièvre (Jacqueline Bisset), an upscale bourgeois woman, interviewing Sophie Bonhomme (Sandrine Bonnaire), a plain and insecure woman, for a job as a maid. Sophie gets the job, but little respect. When the Lelièvre family goes on a vacation to Corsica, Sophie is befriended by Jeanne (Isabelle Huppert), a postal worker who hates, and is hated by, the Lelièvre family. Jeanne envies the glamorous life the Lelièvres and appears to be a much-needed friend for Sophie.

Jeanne is the fearless and outspoken opposite to Sophie's reserved and quiet nature. However, the two share quite a bit in common, including a past murder which they've managed to escape from

and sweep under the carpet. When both women discover the other's secret, they laugh it off. However, when the Lelièvre's daughter discovers one of Sophie's other secrets—illiteracy—and tells her parents, the groundwork is set for Sophie's suppressed past to resurface and for more violence to occur.

The transformation of the film from a simple to horrific story is done effectively and is realistically timed, with the intensity of the ending dwarfing the movie's beginning. The same change in tone applies to the characters, with the Lelièvres going from snobby and judgmental to a vulnerable family threatened by the criminal sides of Jeanne and Sophie, who are likewise characters that the audience starts out feeling sorry for only to realize they might not be as innocent as they first appeared.

While the film succeeds in slow build up to an intense climax, it fails to clearly show the motivations behind the characters' actions, especially those of Jeanne and Sophie. At first the comic relief, Jeanne later turns into the nutcase set on ruining the Lelièvre's lives by doing things like spreading gossip and opening their mail. While it is hinted that she in fact desires the Lelièvre's lifestyle, this idea is barely explored.

Sophie is even harder to figure out. While it is clear that she has insecurities, it's tough to understand why she would want to commit violent acts against the family, whose members never maliciously mistreated her. Melinda even makes an effort to make Sophie less of a servant and more of a friend, making it difficult to know whether one should sympathize with Sophie.

While elements of characterisation may indeed be missing from *La Cérémonie*, the film captures how low self-esteem, jealousy and social inequality can bring out the worst in people and how such individuals might stop at nothing to change the position they're in. With a little more explanation and characters whose actions make a bit more sense, *La Cérémonie* could be a film worth celebrating.

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## Le cas Stéphane Dion ou le syndrome Wilfrid Laurier

JARED MILNE  
Opinion politique

Stéphane Dion : ce nom a des connotations presque aussi négatives au Québec qu'à celui de Pierre Trudeau. On le croit traître pour sa « loi sur la clarté » que certains disent être à la source de l'impossibilité des Québécois et des Québécoises à décider de leur propre destin. Le grand défenseur de l'unité canadienne est considéré au Québec comme un « vendu » et un traître.

Mais est-ce que ces accusations sont justifiées? Selon moi, les accusations soulèvent contre Dion ne le sont pas. Beaucoup de personnes ont été trop occupées à célébrer ou à condamner cette loi sur la clarté, au point d'oublier que Dion a travaillé, à plu-

sieurs reprises, pour la reconnaissance du Québec comme étant une société distincte au sein du Canada.

Il s'en est justifié devant plusieurs types d'auditeurs canadiens. Il avait répondu à ses critiques anglophones que, si l'Alberta ou la Colombie-Britannique étaient les seules provinces majoritairement anglophones dans un continent francophone, celles-ci voudraient protéger leurs cultures et langages distincts. Ceci est une chose que beaucoup d'Anglophones semblent oublier...

Il faut aussi noter que Dion a défendu le projet de loi 101, l'appelant « une grande loi » même s'il a sévèrement été critiqué par le Parti d'égalité du Québec, qui voudrait voir le Québec devenir « une province comme les autres ». Si Dion était vraiment le

jumeau politique de Pierre Trudeau, aurait-il agité de la sorte?

Enfin, il faudrait se rappeler que quelques critiques anglophones ont vu dans la fameuse loi sur la clarté un grand malheur. Pourquoi cela? Parmi toutes les fédérations au monde, le Canada est une des seules, sinon la seule, à établir des règles sur la façon dont une de ses composantes pourrait se séparer du pays.

Malheureusement, les Québécois et Québécoises semblent oublier que Dion a défendu le Québec ainsi que les Anglophones, et qu'il a supporté le projet de la loi 101 et la reconnaissance du Québec comme société distincte. Dion semble être pris dans le syndrome Wilfrid Laurier : essayer de concilier deux partis qui semblent opposés.

## Pour un Québec lucide? Foutaise...!

CARL "LE CAT" CHAREST  
Opinion

Vous savez, j'aime bien la vie que j'ai ici, mais je me surprends encore à regarder sporadiquement les nouvelles du Québec! Ce n'est pas que je m'ennuie énormément de mon ancienne vie — en fait, je dirais plutôt que depuis mon arrivée ici, je me plais à constater à quel point ça va mal dans la Belle Province.

On a seulement à regarder les téléactualités comme « La Chambre des Communes », « Jean le berger et sa gang de moutons égarés » et « Qui veut être chef du Parti Québécois? ». Lors de ces émissions quotidiennes, on peut apprendre plein de potsins sur les acteurs de ces soaps; on apprend que l'un d'entre eux a déjà consommé de la cocaïne, que l'autre est une grande féministe, qu'un autre encore aurait fait faire les rénovations de son chalet au noir et que Jean le berger Charest ne sait plus quoi faire pour maintenir la légendaire qualité de son bétail... Que de rebondissement mes amis!

Depuis un certain temps, on commence à réaliser qu'il n'y a pas de dénoûement à ces émissions. Le problème est que les producteurs, réalisateurs et acteurs de ces émissions semblent se contenter de leur public; c'est-à-dire de ceux qui leur permettent de vivre la vie palpitante du *star system* québécois. Les sondages indiquent clairement que l'intérêt du public n'y est plus et qu'un changement à la grille horaire ne ferait pas de tort!

Il est grand temps que certaines « émissions » soient retirées. Lors de ma tendre enfance, je devais regarder une émission où les puissants syndiqués québécois se battaient contre les redoutables Mondialisation et Capitalisme! À un moment donné, alors que papa et maman avaient les yeux rivés sur

leur programme, j'ai changé de canal afin d'écouter une quelconque émission sur l'économie. Malheur, on m'a traité de «*quid d'a droite*», et j'ai terminé ma soirée à devoir mourir à me faire dire que je devais penser comme un vrai québécois et qu'il me fallait délaïser ces ambitions... J'ai souvent tenté d'expliquer mes divergences d'opinion, et à chaque fois on me renvoyait en punition!

Il y a aussi cette émission qui s'appelle «*Boomers* » qui est présentée à l'antenne depuis les années 50! Avec eux, on aura vécu beaucoup de revirements palpitants. Tout d'abord, ils nous ont permis de connaître plusieurs chansons célèbres au cours des années dont Elvis, Janis Joplin, et les Clash! Brevement, ce groupe de jeunes lurons ont découvert la marijuana et l'amour libre. Cependant, la jeunesse n'a plus un grand intérêt pour cette émission, car elle tourne en rond. On entend même dire que les comédiens de cette série sont rendus dépendants, entre autres, de drogues de type Valium; on rapporte même qu'ils mangent l'argent du « grand coffre » du peuple pour se procurer leurs doses.

Ces quelques exemples ne représentent qu'une infime partie de la situation problématique au Québec, et des réformes sont impératives afin de servir l'intérêt de tous. La mondialisation fait de plus en plus partie de nos vies et il faut de résister ne fait que mettre des bâtons dans les roues; les répercussions prendront davantage d'ampleur au cours des prochaines années. Il est temps d'avoir des acteurs qui vont penser en fonction des réels besoins de la population québécoise. J'en ai plein le cul des petits potins qui ne font que faire régresser le Québec — tant et aussi longtemps que les choses ne changeront pas, je vais demeurer expatrié!

## Société Radio-Canada: La banalité insidieuse

GUILAUME LAROCHE  
Opinion

Il y a quelque chose qui me tracasse. Ça m'arrive partout à la longueur de mes journées banales. Soit en faisant des activités banales, comme écouter la radio ou la télé, soit simplement en lisant les nouvelles du jour. C'est bien la raison pour laquelle je suis resté surpris quand j'ai découvert ce qui me tracasait dans toute cette banalité: les médias auxquels je me fie deviennent également banales. C'est simplement trop de banalité!

Le fait que les médias se ressemblent les uns les autres n'a rien de nouveau. Ce qui est plutôt marquant, c'est que la Société Radio-Canada (SRC) s'adonne de plus en plus à des pratiques banales. C'est bien ça, la Société Radio-Canada, principale issue des minorités dans les médias, celle-là même qui télédiffuse des matchs des Maple Leafs chaque samedi soir pendant l'hiver.

«*Mais voyons Guillaume, ça s'rait perdu la boule!* Le hockey est de retour, les nouvelles sont présentes à la chaîne chaque heure, et ce, en français ou en anglais! Tout va très bien, voyons!» Oui, tout va très bien, si on adopte de tels standards pour juger la qualité du travail de Radio Canada. Mais regards un peu plus loin... Regardons l'exemple de la radio où parler, écouter, la écouter, vous verrez, comme dit si bien leur slogan. Et que venons-nous? Que la SRC ne file pas très bien de ces jours-ci, et que si ça continue, ça va seulement aller de pire en pire.

Je m'explique. La Société a récemment annoncé que sa chaîne radiophonique principale, Radio One, diffusera à partir d'une nouvelle émission du contenu dit «*populaire*» (Madonna, par exemple) chaque après-midi. Effectivement,

une telle manœuvre pousse la Société là où elle ne devrait pas aller: de plus en plus proche des autres médias. C'est-à-dire que des fonds publics sont utilisés pour transformer notre Société en une chaîne commerciale, telle que 96X.

Premièrement, Radio One n'est pas en mesure de faire compétition à des postes commerciaux. Les stations commerciales resteront toujours meilleures dans ce domaine, car elles ont été fondées avec l'intention de présenter un répertoire populaire. La SRC, elle, doit fonctionner selon des règlements établis dans la Loi sur la Radiodiffusion, des paramètres réglés en fonction de la diffusion d'un contenu pertinent aux besoins du canadien, tant national que régional (si quelque'un peut m'éclaircir sur la façon dont un chanson de Madonna remplirait cette fonction, je serai bien heureux). La Société entre non seulement dans un marché où elle ne peut pas espérer sortir gagnante, mais elle veut également faire fi de ses propres principes. Dans quel but? Apparemment, celui de s'attirer plus d'auditeurs et d'adhérents... ce qui ne se produira guère, car les stations commerciales pourront toujours livrer un contenu populaire, et donc pourront mieux desservir une clientèle ciblée.

Il est alors clair que le rôle de la SRC est de desservir un public autre que celui qui écoute des stations commerciales. Hors, nous savons bien que si les stations commerciales ont un succès, c'est qu'une majorité populaire les supporte. Par conséquent, la SRC devrait desservir les minorités. «*Attends une minute!* Guillaume, si la population canadienne, c'est-à-dire, la majorité paie pour Radio-Canada, pourquoi est-ce que celle-ci devrait desservir les minorités?» Une excellente question,

en effet, à laquelle, j'ai une excellente réponse à proposer: parce que dans toute société où le règlement se décide par majorité simple, la majorité a une responsabilité de protéger les vues de la minorité, sinon la tyrannie de la majorité s'en suit. Nous avons ainsi le devoir collectif de protéger ces intérêts, et ceci a traditionnellement été fait par le biais de la SRC. Mais quand des émissions comme *Ceci est un test*, une émission pour les amateurs de musique alternative francophone, passent presque à la guillotine (comme c'était le cas l'année passée), le pouvoir d'expression non seulement des gens qui écoutent cette musique mais également de ces artistes qui s'adressent à un public limité est encore grandement compromis.

Ce qui est encore plus intéressant, ce sont les sondages qui indiquent que la majorité supporte qu'une programmation variée et différente fasse partie de notre société, même si cela est seulement de façon occasionnelle. L'avancement social dans toute discipline soit-elle artistique ou scientifique dépend d'un support continu. Si la majorité supporte effectivement un avancement social dans les différentes disciplines que l'on retrouve aux postes de la SRC, nous devons effectivement continuer à supporter ces initiatives sans considérer le nombre de gens qui y prêteront une attention quasi-religieuse.

En éliminant un support pour les minorités et en remplaçant les programmes auxquels elles prêtent attention, la SRC s'oriente vers un futur très incertain. Incertain par son manque total d'innovation et la banalité inévitable qui s'en suivra à la télé et la radio. J'espère alors que j'apprendrai à aimer les nouvelles et le hockey des Maple Leafs. Il y a quelque chose qui me tracasse avec ça...

contributions: Carl Charest, Guillaume Laroche, Jared Milne, Éric Vaillant

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## Une première Africaine

ÉRIC VAILLANT  
Actualité

Le Libéria a récemment élu sa première «*présidente*», Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, ce qui est un précédent sur le continent africain. Diplômée en économie à l'Université d'Harvard, Madame Johnson-Sirleaf a notamment travaillé pour les Nations Unies ainsi que pour la Banque Mondiale. Les élections générales (parlementaires et présidentielles) au Libéria font suite à une des exigences de l'accord de paix, signé en août 2003, qui prévoyait une période transitoire de deux ans avant la venue des nouvelles élections. Selon Frances Johnson Morris, présidente de la Commission électorale nationale (NEC), Madame Johnson-Sirleaf aurait obtenu 59,6 % des suffrages au deuxième tour de la présidentielle alors que son principal adversaire, Georges Weah, aurait obtenu 40,4 % des suffrages. Monsieur Weah dont la popularité tient beaucoup à son passé de footballeur, a réagi devant ces résultats en portant plainte pour fraude électorale.

Les défis qui attendent la nouvelle présidente sont à la grande hauteur de l'Afrique. De fait, Madame Johnson-Sirleaf doit (littéralement) reconstruire le Libéria qui vient de traverser une période de 14 ans de guerre civile. Selon Olivier Pégy de Radio France International, il lui faudra «*éradi-*

quer la corruption quasi-généralisée au sein de l'État et du secteur privé... » ce qui risque d'être difficile, d'autant plus que sa réussite tient à la réconciliation nationale. En plus d'avoir à créer des emplois pour les Libériens et Libériennes, elle a dans son assiette le sort de l'ancien président des pays, Charles Taylor. En effet, Taylor, exilé au Nigeria depuis 2003, a pour épée de Damoclès 17 chefs d'accusation dont des crimes de guerre et des crimes contre l'humanité. Quoique Olusegun Obasanjo, président du Nigeria, refuse d'expulser l'ancien président libérien, il a récemment affirmé que «*seul un président démocratiquement élu pourra demander l'extradition de Taylors*». Conséquemment, cette tâche reviendrait à la nouvelle présidente.

Pour accomplir la tâche gigantesque qui s'impose à elle, Madame Johnson-Sirleaf, doit la forte détermination lui a valu le surnom de «*Dame de fer*», aura certes besoin de plusieurs aides. Outre ses nombreux partisans, il est fort à parier qu'elle demandera l'aide de ses nombreux amis des Nations Unies et de la Banque Mondiale. De plus, elle envisagerait de proposer un «*poste important*» à son rival Georges Weah, ce qui pourrait contribuer en partie au ralliement de la population libérienne. Si la reconstruction du Libéria est encore à refaire, l'élection d'une première présidente est désormais une réalité.

## LE MIROIR

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Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) meets every Sunday 10:30-11:30am at UArche, 7708 - 83rd street. For more information: [edmontonquakers@shaw.ca](mailto:edmontonquakers@shaw.ca) or telephone (780) 467-1446.

Red Deer College in Kenya, 1-30 May, 2006, Masai Mara Tsavo National Park, Indian Ocean Coast. Principles of ecology and/or indigenous and cultural minorities in the modern world. [www.rdcab.ca](http://www.rdcab.ca) (403) 342-3504.

Want to study MEDICINE in Europe? [www.medical-school.ca](http://www.medical-school.ca) and [canadamin@medical-school.ca](mailto:canadamin@medical-school.ca).

Karma Tashi Ling Tibetan Buddhist Centre, Lama Ani Kunsang resident teacher, invites students and staff to Buddhist meditation practice Weds 7pm, 10502 70 ave, 633-6157.

ASL sign language class level one begins 17 January, 2006 for twelve weeks. Tuesdays 6:30-9:30pm. Contact: Specialized Support & Disability Services, U of A, 492-3381, 2-800 SUB for more information.

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Earls Bourbon St in West Edmonton Mall is hiring experienced waiters/waitresses for the upcoming busy Christmas season! We are looking for both full- and pt employment to continue into the New Year. Please apply directly on location.

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Want to prove to the next generation that SCIENCE ROCKS? We seek a part-time project coordinator to help organize the Choices and SET Conferences for elementary and high-school girls. For more details, refer to the CAPS online job posting (#881) or the WISEST website, [www.wisest.alberta.ca](http://www.wisest.alberta.ca). Deadline is 2 December, or until a suitable candidate is found.

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This job pays \$12 to \$13 an hour for up to 20 hrs a week starting in January. If you have a car (mileage will be paid) and are willing to take a 5-year-old boy to and from school MTWR mornings. Contact: [jonip@ualberta.net](mailto:jonip@ualberta.net).

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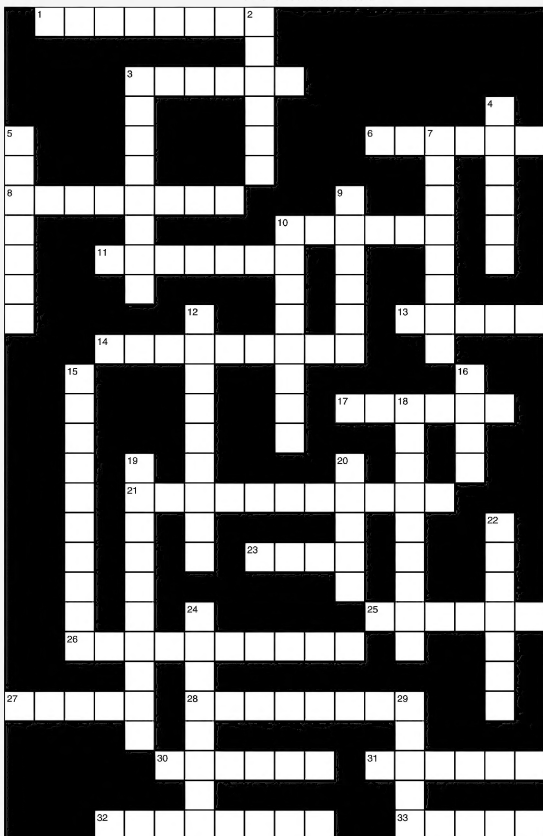
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## CROSSWORD

The Triviaword compiled by Scott C Bourgeois. The solution is available at [www.gatewayalberta.ca](http://www.gatewayalberta.ca) on the "comics" section.



### Across

- In an alphabetical listing, this country would come last.
- This legendary actor played Philip Marlowe in the 1946 film *The Big Sleep*.
- This drink contains as many types of rum as possible.
- An Australian duck-billed, egg laying mammal.
- The traditional blade wielded by a samurai.
- Florence Nightingale tended to the troops of this war.
- A phrenologist studies and interprets this part of the body.
- This historical ruler was known as *The Serpent of the Nile*.
- Mandrill is another name for this animal.
- The scientific term for nose-job.
- The Himalayan name for the Abominable Snowman.
- If you bowl three consecutive strikes, you're said to have

obtained one of these.

- This famed English site is found on Salisbury Plain.
- Mr Spock's blood is this colour.
- John Wayne won his only Oscar for this movie.
- This sport features sculls, strokes and slides.
- This Titan was the father of Zeus, and was generally considered to be a bit of a jerk.
- The capital of Chile (hint: not Chileville).
- Christopher Columbus claimed the New World in the name of this country.
- Down**
- The state motto of California.
- This man was the first defenceman to win the NHL scoring championship (two words.)
- Lord Voldemort's family name.
- Author of "Just So Stories."
- Japanese equivalent of Walt

- Disney, this director's works include *Spirited Away*, *Princess Mononoke* and *Porco Rosso*.
- This man was king of the Huns from 406 to 453.
- If you "yarn over" or "pop corn" you are doing this.
- The first UN secretary-general, Trygve Lie, was of this nationality.
- Wrestlers Shawn Michaels and Marty Jannetty used to wrestle as this tag team.
- Cows have this many teats.
- The *Powerpuff Girls* are names Blossom, Bubbles and this.
- The leading female singer in an opera is called this (two words.)
- The family name of Mario and Luigi.
- The pen name of writer Theodor Geisel.
- The more common name for the vegetable "Beta Vulgaris."
- The Knave of Hearts stole these.

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$$e^{\pi i} = -1$$

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